The Washington Post

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Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026 · **$4**

Blanche nomination is stymied in standoff

Trump suggests he may withdraw attorney general pick until 2027

BY JEREMY ROEBUCK, THEODORIC MEYER AND PERRY STEIN

President Donald Trump suggested Thursday that he might withdraw Todd Blanche's nomination to become attorney general until next year amid a standoff with two Republican senators who are demanding concessions from the administration in exchange for their votes.

Sens. John Cornyn (Texas) and Thom Tillis (North Carolina) have called for changes, in writing, to the controversial deal the Justice Department struck earlier this year to resolve a lawsuit Trump filed against the IRS. Despite days of negotiations between the senators and the Justice Department, an agreement appeared far from likely.

In a social media post Thursday, Trump called out the senators, both of whom are set to leave their elected positions at the end of the year, and suggested their resistance to supporting Blanche stemmed from his refusal to back them for reelection.

"John Cornyn, of Texas, and Thom Tillis, of North Carolina, both of whom I refused to Endorse, and whose political careers have been ended by my action, are refusing to vote for this Great Nominee," Trump wrote.

He added: "I have no objection to temporarily withdrawing Todd's name, if they do not do the right thing, and putting him back after Cornyn and Tillis are out of office."

SEE **BLANCHE** ON **A2**

Economic growth falls short of forecasts

Other indicators suggest that the American economy remains solid

BY DAVID J. LYNCH

The U.S. economy slowed to a 1.5 percent pace from April through June, as increases in consumer and business spending were partially offset by a drop in government outlays, the Commerce Department said Thursday.

Larger-than-usual income tax refunds helped Americans keep spending in the second quarter, while soccer's quadrennial World Cup tournament gave them — and visitors from abroad — a good reason to do so, economists said.

Growth overall came in below economists' expectations, which were at roughly 2 percent.

"It's an economy that's doing okay. It's not overheating. It's not underheating," said Brian Bethune, an economics professor at Boston College.

Other indicators suggest the economy remains solid. Real final sales to private domestic purchasers — a combined measure

SEE **ECONOMY** ON **A14**

In Italy, Etna puts on a show

GIUSEPPE DISTEFANO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A plume of ash rises from a crater of the Mount Etna volcano Thursday. Etna is a popular tourist destination all year, with its snowy landscape and frequent volcanic activity attracting photographers, hikers and winter sports enthusiasts.

Poll finds no consensus on democratic socialism

BY TEO ARMUS AND SCOTT CLEMENT

Three in 4 Democrats say they would be open to supporting a democratic socialist for president, but less than half of all Americans say they would vote for such a candidate, according to a Washington Post-Ipsos poll.

The findings from the recent survey show the ascendant strength of socialist-backed candidates among left-leaning voters — and the challenges that strength poses for a Democratic Party that is debating how to win mass appeal ahead of the 2028 presidential election.

The Democratic Socialists of America has amassed tens of thousands of new dues-paying members as the party appeals to voters frustrated with widening income inequality. Several democratic socialists or candidates affiliated with the movement have won primaries in deep-blue cities and congressional districts.

The DSA considers itself a big-tent organization, and its members hold a variety of left-leaning political views that range from support for Nordic-style social welfare programs to a staunch belief in communism.

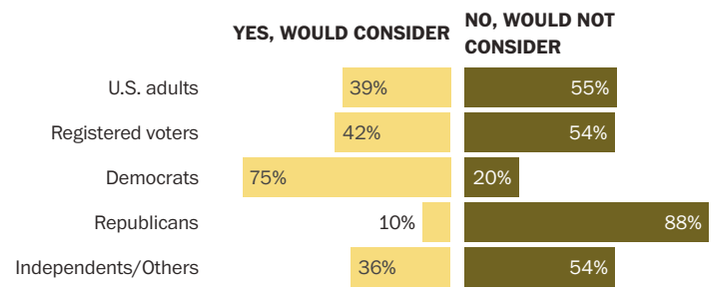
The group's platform includes support for the socialized health care program known as Medicare-for-all, a popular vote for president, increasing taxes on the rich, stronger union protections, universal rent control and free prekindergarten.

But Americans have not reached consensus on what being a democratic socialist actu-

SEE **POLL** ON **A18**

Most Americans say they would not consider voting for a democratic socialist for president

Q: Would you consider voting for a candidate for president who identifies as a democratic socialist?



Note: Percentage skipping question not shown.

Source: Washington Post-Ipsos poll July 8-13, 2026, among 2,648 U.S. adults with an error margin of +/- 1.9 percentage points. The error margin is larger among subgroups.

JOHN MCDONNELL/AP

Commanders limber up

Washington Commanders quarterbacks, from left, Athan Kaliakmanis, Marcus Mariota, Jayden Daniels and Sam Hartman work out during practice Thursday in Ashburn, Virginia. The team is counting on top wideout Terry McLaurin for a bounce-back season. **Story, B7**

ICE expands its arrests at airports to new targets

BY LIAM BOWMAN AND LIAM SCOTT

The Trump administration is ramping up immigration-related detentions at airports nationwide, including in the D.C. area, according to advocates and attorneys, as part of what appears to be a new push targeting foreign nationals who have overstayed their visas.

Six immigration lawyers interviewed by The Washington Post said immigration officials have stepped up enforcement at the three airports that serve the D.C. region, detaining passengers as they prepare to board or step off domestic flights.

While Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers had previously detained people with deportation orders at airports, the targeting of people who entered the country legally but now have expired visas is a new development, the lawyers said.

SEE **ICE** ON **A6**

U.S. hits dozens of targets in Iran

FULFILLS TRUMP'S VOW OF RETALIATION

Violence in the region continues to spiral

BY DAN LAMOTHE AND ELLEN FRANCIS

U.S. forces launched a new wave of airstrikes against Iran overnight as violence in the region widened, including an Iranian attack in Kuwait and a drone attack that hit a U.S. tanker at an Egyptian port.

The U.S. strikes hit dozens of targets affiliated with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the U.S. Central Command said, "including military command centers, missile and drone facilities, coastal surveillance and defense sites, and maritime capabilities." Iran's state-run IRNA news agency reported that the U.S. military struck three cities in the southern Bushehr province overnight.

U.S. officials said the strikes were intended as a "powerful response" to Iran's attacks on U.S. forces in the Middle East. President Donald Trump had threatened to hit Iran "hard" after the United States shot down five ballistic missiles aimed at U.S. forces in Jordan, a key American partner in the region.

The Iranian attack Thursday in northern Kuwait hit a building belonging to a Chinese company, killing one worker, the Kuwaiti army said.

The drone attack in Egypt appeared to mark the first time that country had been targeted in the widening war. Two vessels

SEE **IRAN** ON **A11**

Shrinking stashes of arms test war plans

Start-ups must prove they can manufacture at military scale

BY PRANSHU VERMA

In a late-June meeting with more than a dozen of the nation's top defense technology firms, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth had an urgent message: The Pentagon needed their help to rapidly replenish America's weapons arsenal.

Outside the room, the United States was mired in a conflict with Iran that was rapidly depleting U.S. stocks of missiles and interceptors. According to three people familiar with the meeting, some of whom spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive information, Hegseth told executives that their companies would be critical to restocking the nation's supplies.

The meeting, several details of which were previously unreported, underscores a pivotal shift in the U.S. defense industry. With the Iran war consuming vast quantities of precision munitions and relying less on

SEE **WEAPONS** ON **A18**

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Anti-Corruption Bureau Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-New York) seeks to create a new federal agency to investigate corruption in response to the Trump administration. **A3**

China hacks Claims of election interference in doubt as evidence points to Beijing seeking personal data for espionage, not voting. **A10**

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Ben Affleck and "Jeopardy!" champ Jamie Ding won big for charity on "Who Wants To Be a Millionaire." B1

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These local spots put the best twist on soft serve ice cream, the summer classic that makes us melt.

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Republican lame ducks defy Trump over Blanche nomination

GOP Sens. John Cornyn, Thom Tillis are leaving Senate after this year

BY SAMMY WESTFALL

In a high-profile setback for President Donald Trump, a Senate committee postponed its vote on the nomination of Todd Blanche as the next attorney general after two Republican senators threatened to withhold their support — a move that would almost certainly tank Blanche's nomination if the administration can't win them over.

After the postponement, Trump suggested Thursday that he could withdraw Blanche's nomination until next year.

Sens. John Cornyn (R-Texas) and Thom Tillis (R-North Carolina) — who are leaving the Senate after this year and are no longer tethered to the president — said they won't back down until the Trump administration commits to limiting provisions of a deal struck between the Justice Department and president to resolve a lawsuit he filed against the IRS over leaking his tax records.

At the center of the standoff is a provision that would have created a nearly $1.8 billion taxpayer pool of money to compensate people claiming they were victims of political prosecutions. Blanche has pledged that the department wouldn't proceed with the fund but has so far resisted calls to put that in writing.

The senators also raised concerns about Blanche saying he will honor a stipulation that would shield Trump, his family and their businesses from past tax claims.

The vote was scheduled to take place at 9 a.m. Thursday, but Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, announced Wednesday that he was postponing it to give Cornyn and Tillis more time to address their concerns.

The pushback — which could halt Blanche's nomination in the committee stage — shows how congressional Republicans are showing more willingness to stand up to Trump on important matters.

ANNA ROSE LAYDEN/REUTERS

Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington on Wednesday.

Sen. Thom Tillis (R-North Carolina)

The North Carolina Republican announced last summer that he would not seek reelection this year.

He has expressed concern that the payout fund could end up rewarding defendants who attacked police during the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Last summer, Tillis bucked his party by opposing its One Big Beautiful Bill, saying it would harm North Carolina, particularly its hospitals and rural communities. "I will always do what is in the best interest of North Carolina, even when that puts me at odds with my own party," he said in a June 28, 2025, statement, becoming one of only two Senate Republicans voting against moving forward with debate on the act.

Trump was quick to knock Tillis for the break, writing on Truth Social that Tillis "is a talker and complainer, NOT A DOER!"

That same week, the president also said he would meet with people who wanted to run against Tillis in the primary to look for a candidate "who will properly represent the Great People of North Carolina and, so importantly, the United States of America." Tillis responded by declaring that he would not run for reelection, opening up a swing seat that Democrats are targeting in November's midterm elections.

Three Republicans, including Tillis, ended up voting against the Trump-backed budget reconciliation bill, which narrowly passed.

In January, Trump suggested that Tillis was not seeking reelection because he was out of step with the president.

"That's why Thom's not going to be a senator any longer, I guess. Look, I like Thom Tillis, he's a nice guy. But he's not going to be a senator any longer because of views like that," Trump said.

Tillis maintained that the two had cordial relations, and he rejected the idea that critiques of the White house were only possible because he was not running for reelection.

Tillis has largely avoided directly criticizing Trump but has castigated some of his advisers, including White House deputy chief of staff Stephen Miller and Kristi L. Noem, whom Trump fired as homeland security secretary in March.

Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas)

Four-term senator Cornyn lost his Republican primary in May after Trump made a late endorsement of his opponent, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, a loyal ally of the president.

Cornyn had nearly become the most powerful Republican in the chamber in 2024 and had never lost an election in his state before his May defeat.

Despite Cornyn having been long loyal to Trump, with a near perfect voting record with the president in both terms, they have had some ups and downs.

Trump in 2022 called Cornyn a "RINO" — or "Republican in name only" — after the senator helped negotiate bipartisan gun safety legislation.

Cornyn suggested in 2023 that Trump could not win the 2024 election, saying he thought "President Trump's time has passed him by."

In endorsing Paxton, Trump wrote that he was "someone who has always been extremely loyal to me and our AMAZING MAGA MOVEMENT." He called Cornyn "a good man" but said he "was not supportive of me when times were tough."

Cornyn publicly embraced Trump's agenda during his second term, even proposing to rename a highway after him, but he has become increasingly critical since losing his primary.

Jeremy Roebuck, Theodoric Meyer, Perry Stein and Matthew Choi contributed to this report.

Trump suggests he may withdraw attorney general nomination until next year

BLANCHE FROM A1

If Trump follows through on that threat, Blanche could remain the head of the Justice Department on an acting basis for the foreseeable future.

Still, the fact that two senators from his own party had brought Trump to consider such a move signified the extent to which Republican lawmakers are showing an increased willingness to buck the president's demands as his popularity falls and the midterms approach.

Cornyn lost his bid for reelection in May after Trump endorsed his primary opponent, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. Tillis opted not to seek reelection this year after a dispute with Trump. Since then, both senators have opposed the president on occasion, but their stand on Blanche's nomination is the most significant break so far.

Despite Trump's pronouncement, there is no guarantee that Blanche would have an easier path if the president waited for the senators to leave office. Analysts from both sides expect Democrats to make gains in the midterm elections, potentially retaking one or both chambers of Congress.

Responding to Trump's threat Thursday, Cornyn shot back with a social media post of his own, saying the president "is mistaken if he believes concerns about the provisions in his tax lawsuit settlement are limited to me and Senator Tillis."

"This is not just a problem with just Thom Tillis and me — we just happen to be on the front lines on the Judiciary Committee," Cornyn later told reporters. "I think there's a serious question whether — if this goes unresolved — whether he could ever get confirmed. And I think that's too bad, because I think he's basically a good guy."

"After the midterms, who knows who's going to be the next United States senator from North Carolina or Texas?" Cornyn said.

Earlier in the day, the senator dismissed the notion that his and Tillis's position stems from hostility to Trump. "This is about making sure that we maintain the integrity of our justice system and fairness for everybody involved," Cornyn said.

That back-and-forth came hours after Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, was forced to postpone a committee vote on Blanche's nomination that had been scheduled for Thursday morning or risk a losing outcome.

Republicans enjoy a 12-10 advantage on the Judiciary Committee, including Sen. Darline Graham of South Carolina, who recently replaced her late brother, Sen. Lindsey Graham. Either Cornyn or Tillis voting against Blanche would be enough to force a tie, stalling the nomination before it could reach the Senate floor. "No" votes from both senators would kill the nomination in committee.

"Chairman Grassley works to set President Trump's nominees up for success in committee, not failure," Grassley's office said of the decision to postpone the vote.

Cornyn and Tillis are demanding changes to two aspects of the Justice Department's deal with Trump, which resolved the lawsuit the president had filed against the IRS over the leak of his tax returns to the media.

They want Blanche to codify in writing his public pledge that the administration will not move forward with a nearly $1.8 billion payout fund to compensate people who claim they are victims of politically motivated prosecutions.

They are also seeking to limit a separate provision that offered Trump, his family members and their businesses protection from past tax claims — a potentially lucrative benefit for a president who has often complained of burdensome IRS audits. That aspect of the deal has led to accusations of corruption and self-dealing.

The federal judge who oversaw Trump's lawsuit recently denounced it as an improper attempt to "manipulate" the court process. She said it was not a legitimate legal dispute between two independent parties, given that both sides ultimately reported to Trump, but rather a pretext to come up with a questionable deal reached without court approval.

Blanche has said he did not play a direct role in the negotiations between the Justice Department and Trump's legal team. However, his signature is the only one that appears on the documents relating to the deal's tax provisions.

Cornyn, among other things, wants the administration to clarify in writing that those protections do not apply to the Trump family's future actions.

Neither side is offering specifics on the status of their negotiations, but talks continued into Thursday morning, with the Justice Department and the senators swapping proposals and counteroffers.

A Justice Department official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to share details about the talks, said the department had sent a new proposal to Cornyn and Tillis late Wednesday.

"The Department has been in regular communication with Committee members for weeks, and we look forward to continuing to work productively with Senators to address any concerns," the department said in a statement.

Cornyn sent a proposal of his own Thursday morning.

Trump is generally not inclined to make concessions to lawmakers who he thinks are not on his side, said one Trump adviser, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss the president's mindset. Trump does not think he needs Senate Republicans as much as they think he does, the adviser added.

Cornyn suggested that the $1.8 billion payout fund was no longer the main source of the impasse. Instead, he said, the hang-up involved the senators' requested revisions to the part of the deal containing tax protections for Trump.

Tillis said separately that Trump's threat to withdraw Blanche's nomination rather than formally rescind the payout fund casts doubt on Blanche's promise that the fund is dead.

"It doesn't add up," Tillis told reporters. "It suggests to me that there's at least one or two people in the White House that wanted to have this latent capability for future use."

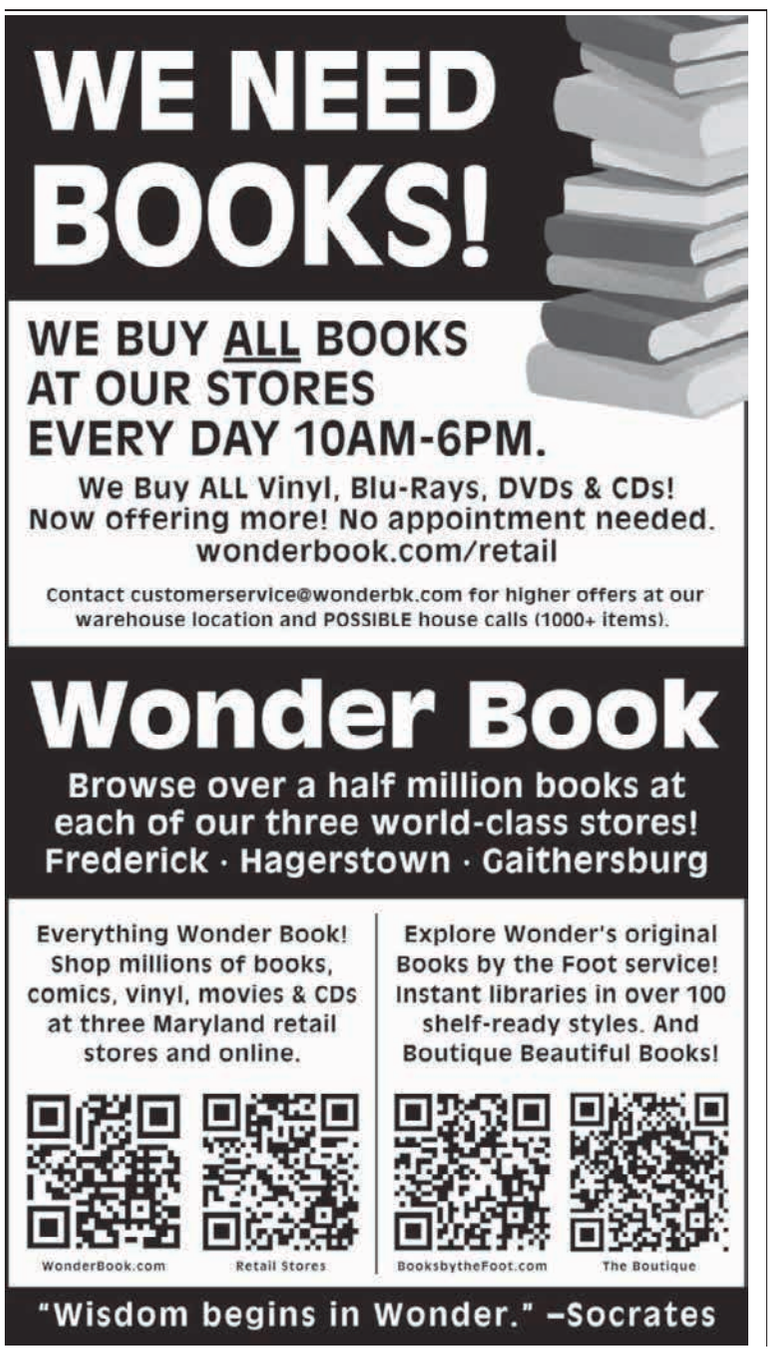
Both senators blamed the White House, not Blanche, for the impasse.

"I'm happy to solve the problem," Cornyn said. "I thought we had solved it last night. … I think as far as Blanche and the Department of Justice, we were pretty much on the same page. But then when the president got wind of it, he wasn't."

Isaac Arnsdorf contributed to this report.

KEVIN DIETSCH/GETTY IMAGES

A refusal by the Senate to confirm acting attorney general Todd Blanche would be a notable political setback for the president, who has called out the resisting senators on social media.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"Wisdom begins in Wonder." –Socrates

THE NATION

Schumer pitches a new federal agency to investigate political corruption

Part of Democrats' effort to articulate an agenda ahead of the midterms

BY THEODORIC MEYER

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-New York) is poised to introduce legislation to create a new federal agency to investigate corruption in response to President Donald Trump's administration.

The bill is part of Democrats' effort to articulate a legislative agenda ahead of the midterm elections, in which the party is fighting to retake the House and the Senate.

Much of the party's agenda is built around plans to lower the cost of housing, energy, health care, food and child care. But Schumer is betting that voters are also fed up with what he described as Trump's efforts to profit from the presidency and want to clean up Washington a decade after Trump promised to "drain the swamp."

"They used to shrug their shoulders and say, 'Ah, that's Washington,'" Schumer said Wednesday in an interview in his office. "But it is so base and so deep and so pervasive that people don't just say it's Washington. They say, 'This is a new level and we've got to stop it.'"

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-New York) has delivered a similar message, calling for "accountability in the face of rampant corruption in Washington, D.C., the likes of which we have never seen in our nation's 250-year history."

Schumer's bill would create a new agency, the Anti-Corruption Bureau, with broad investigative authority, including subpoena power. It would absorb three existing agencies — the Office of Government Ethics, the Federal Election Commission and the Office of Special Counsel — and place them under a new agency led by seven board members who would be confirmed by the Senate. No more than three board members could come from each party.

The bill would bar presidents and vice presidents — along with their spouses and adult children — and many senior administration officials from "corruptly" seeking or accepting anything worth more than $50,000. It would allow state attorneys general and private plaintiffs to sue over violations.

MARIAM ZUHAIB/AP

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-New York) speaks during a news conference Wednesday on Capitol Hill.

Schumer's aides designed the agency in a way that would attempt to insulate it from interference, with a funding mechanism similar to the Federal Reserve, the independent central bank.

The bill faces little chance of passage in the Republican-controlled Senate — and it could face a hard road even if Democrats retake Congress and voters elect a Democratic president in 2028. Unlike some Democratic priorities, the bill could be filibustered and would need the support of 60 senators to advance.

Schumer predicted the backlash to the Trump administration's corruption would be so fierce that some Republicans might support the bill.

Democrats have repeatedly portrayed the Trump administration as corrupt, pointing in particular to Trump's disclosure last month that he earned $2.2 billion last year from crypt and other ventures, as well as Trump's sons' investments in defense technology start-ups that have benefited from new Pentagon spending.

The White House has defended Trump against accusations of corruption and said that he and his family have no conflicts of interest.

"All of President Trump's investment holdings are in held in fully discretionary accounts managed by independent third-party financial institutions," Anna Kelly, a White House spokeswoman, said in a statement. "This is the same, tired narrative that Democrats have pushed against President Trump, his family, and his administration for a decade."

This bill is not solely aimed at Trump. Schumer said he would keep pushing to pass it even if a Democrat wins the White House in 2028.

"We need to clean up this government, period, no matter who's in charge," Schumer said. "And you need to guard against corrupt people getting involved. Doesn't have to be a president. You might have a corrupt Cabinet secretary even in a good administration."

The law would allow the Anti-Corruption Bureau to investigate the Trump administration even after Trump is out of office. It gives the agency the power to investigate violations committed on or after Jan. 20, 2025 — the first day of Trump's second term — with a 10-year statute of limitations.

Not all of Washington's previous efforts to set up independent bodies to investigate misconduct have been unqualified successes.

The Ethics of Government Act of 1978, passed in response to Watergate, created independent counsels with broad powers. But they were criticized by Democrats and Republicans alike, and the provision was allowed to lapse in 1999. Special counsels such as Robert S. Mueller III, who investigated Russia's interference in the 2016 election, and Robert K. Hur, who investigated President Joe Biden's handling of classified documents, also faced criticism.

Schumer said the new agency would be different from independent counsels or other previous efforts.

"Those were aimed at a specific malfeasance, like Watergate," Schumer said. "This is aimed broadly at the most corrupt — at a presidency that has invoked all kinds of corruption everywhere you look."

Trump's support for Graham's sister stirs GOP backlash in South Carolina

A dozen Republicans have filed to run in the Aug. 11 primary election

BY NATALIE ALLISON

President Donald Trump has put his weight behind Sen. Darline Graham in her bid to succeed her late brother, Lindsey Graham, for a full term. But rather than embracing the president's endorsed candidate in a whirlwind election less than two weeks away, influential conservative activists in South Carolina say they're not swayed.

Trump's conservative base could again reject one of his chosen candidates this year — as they did in South Carolina's GOP gubernatorial primary in June — as his supporters question whether the president is acting with their top priorities in mind.

"People are going to be independently minded in this, and I don't think that Trump is the end all, be all that he used to be," said CJ Westfall, chairman of the Dorchester County Republican Party.

Many conservative activists say they aren't sold on Graham because of her lack of a political record, besides her public support for her brother.

Trump initially called for Graham to be appointed to serve the remaining six months of her brother's term, then quickly backed her after she unexpectedly decided to seek a full term. A dozen GOP candidates filed to run in the Aug. 11 primary election before this week's deadline. They include Reps. Ralph Norman and Russell Fry, who have conservative voting records in Congress, and former governor Mark Sanford.

The crowded special election is expected to go to an Aug. 25 runoff. And runoff elections, Westfall said, "typically bring out the hard core of the hard core."

Even national Republican operatives sympathetic to Darline Graham, and who were aligned with her brother, are privately conceding that her odds of success in the primary race appear slim.

In interviews, more than a dozen South Carolina Republican operatives and activists described three issues working against Graham: She had never held office and is little-known across the state, despite her brother's high profile. Her association with her brother could have downsides in a primary; Lindsey Graham had struggled to please many in Trump's MAGA-aligned base in recent years because of his hawkishness and willingness to work with Democrats, and he had spent $20 million to fend off a primary challenge this year from the right. And some are simply irked that Trump wants to hand off a coveted six-year term to someone based on family ties, rather than a proven conservative record.

Chad Walldorf, a longtime Republican donor and activist in South Carolina, said he respects Darline Graham's long career as an advocate in the state for people with disabilities.

ALEX BRANDON/AP

Sen. Darline Graham (R-South Carolina), her husband, Larry Nardone, and President Donald Trump at Tuesday's funeral in Washington.

"But it's just hard for that to suddenly translate into a six-year Senate term in a month," Walldorf said. "And that's the leap voters are being asked to make."

Graham, who previously led South Carolina's Commission for the Blind, has taken steps to demonstrate her conservative bona fides since she was sworn in two weeks ago. She has worked to pass legislation that her brother championed to sanction Russia, and she has announced support for bills to defend gun rights, oppose abortion, support law enforcement and limit birthright citizenship.

In an interview with Sean Hannity on Fox News, she suggested she would focus more on domestic policy than the national security issues her brother emphasized. Darline Graham also endorsed Trump's demand on Monday that Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-South Dakota) keep senators in Washington until they approve the Save America Act, a voting bill that Trump has pressured Thune for months to pass.

Following Lindsey Graham's funerals this week, Darline Graham plans to resume campaigning Thursday, seeking to portray herself as more conservative than her brother, according to a person familiar with her campaign, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss strategy.

"Darline is really in for a dogfight," said one Republican official working on Senate races, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly. The person said private polling has not shown Graham pulling significantly ahead in the crowded field. The national official — like many in South Carolina conservative political circles — said they do not expect Graham to win the runoff election, given her limited time to introduce herself to voters.

GRANT BALDWIN/GETTY IMAGES

Sen. Lindsey Graham is honored with a processional Wednesday in Columbia, South Carolina.

Randy Page, executive vice president of the socially conservative Palmetto Family Council, cited the low, 10 percent turnout in the party's June runoff election as he predicted lower participation in the special Senate primary and even lower turnout for a special runoff. Page said that such small electorates tend to favor someone who, "frankly, is known as a movement conservative."

Norman, who has name recognition and a statewide campaign operation after finishing third in the GOP primary for governor, is widely considered to be the favorite for the nomination. Trump intended to endorse Fry for the six-year term, until Graham decided she wanted to run, according to two people with knowledge of Trump's decision who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private deliberations.

Norman has secured the endorsements of conservative Republican Sens. Rick Scott (Florida) and Mike Lee (Utah), along with upstate sheriffs, while Fry has the backing of 40 Republican state legislators. Rep. William Timmons (R-South Carolina) has endorsed Graham.

While Graham has received endorsements from several Republican Senate colleagues, she has yet to secure the public backing of two key Senate leaders — Sen. Tim Scott (R-South Carolina), who chairs the National Republican Senatorial Committee, the Senate GOP's campaign operation, and Thune. Much of Lindsey Graham's remaining campaign cash will be transferred to the NRSC to be spent on behalf of his sister, according to a person with knowledge of the arrangement who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss it publicly. But the person said those funds will be limited and probably well under $1 million.

Some grassroots conservative activists in the state have noted that Darline Graham, according to election records, did not cast a vote in the 2024 presidential primary. South Carolina is a key early state in the process of determining a party's presidential nominee, and Trump defeated a former governor, Nikki Haley, in that primary election.

The White House did not respond to a request for comment, including on whether Trump intends to travel to South Carolina to campaign for Graham.

Trump was forced to issue a co-endorsement in the state's June gubernatorial primary runoff to avoid a political loss, after his first pick, Lt. Gov. Pam Evette, failed to gain the support of the majority of his base. Her opponent, state Attorney General Alan Wilson, who came in second place behind Evette in the primary, ultimately consolidated supporters of the other Republican candidates in the race and won the runoff by 37 percentage points.

Evette's loss followed similar rejections of Trump-endorsed primary candidates by Republican voters in the Georgia and Iowa governor's races, as well as outrage from Trump's base this spring after he was reported to be considering endorsing the reelection of Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas). Trump ultimately abandoned the plan to endorse Cornyn — whom he had once labeled a "RINO," or a Republican in name only — instead putting his 11th-hour support behind MAGA candidate Ken Paxton, the state's attorney general.

"Trump's endorsements haven't always been correct in the voters' eyes," said Mark Lynch, Graham's main primary challenger this spring, who is again running to succeed him. "We're not going to have a coronation in this state and elect Darline as the queen, underneath the king, Lindsey."

Theodoric Meyer contributed to this report.

Georgia school shooter's father, who bought son a gun, gets 15-year term

Landmark case is part of a larger effort to hold parents accountable

BY COLE REYNOLDS

Colin Gray, whose son shot and killed four people at a northern Georgia high school in 2024 with a gun Gray had bought him, was sentenced Thursday to 15 years in prison.

"Mr. Gray committed crimes, but his crimes are tethered to the tragedy committed by his son, and that makes the situation a little unique," Chief Judge Nicholas Primm, of the Piedmont Circuit Superior Court, said during the sentencing.

Gray was convicted of second-degree murder earlier this year, a landmark verdict in a larger effort to hold parents of school shooters accountable. The elder Gray had given his son an AR-15-style rifle and left it unsecured in the boy's bedroom even though the teenager was displaying psychological problems and a fixation with school shootings.

His son, Colt Gray, 16, pleaded guilty last week to 55 charges related to the massacre — a list that included multiple counts of felony murder, aggravated assault and cruelty to children in the first degree. He was sentenced Tuesday to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

HYOSUB SHIN/POOL/ATLANTA JOURNAL

Colin Gray, the father of a school shooter, enters the courtroom Thursday in Winder, Georgia.

Nearly two years ago, Colt Gray, then 14, entered Apalachee High School, about 50 miles northeast of Atlanta, armed with the rifle. He fatally shot 14-year-old freshmen Mason Schermerhorn and Christian Angulo, as well as teachers Cristina Irimie, 53, and Richard Aspinwall, 39. Nine other students were also injured.

During his trial, the elder Gray testified that he had given his son the rifle for Christmas in 2023 and saw no warning signs of a shooting to come. Jimmy Berry, an attorney for Gray, said he is a loving parent who struggled at times but was "wired to see the best" in his son.

Gray and his wife, Marcee, struggled with drug addiction and were inattentive to their son's problems as Colt Gray allegedly developed paranoia and a fascination with school shootings, The Washington Post previously reported.

In the days before his son became the youngest mass school shooter in a quarter-century, Colin Gray kept the rifle unsecured in his son's room, according to prosecutors.

During Thursday's sentencing, family members of the shooting's victims offered tearful testimony, many imploring Primm to give Colin Gray the maximum punishment. Prosecutors asked Primm on Thursday to sentence Gray to 80 years behind bars.

Breanna Schermerhorn, Mason's mother, said the shooting had committed her family to "life sentences of grief." She called the shooting preventable and said Gray could have intervened.

"He saw the warning signs. He heard about the disturbing behavior. He knew his son was in crisis," Schermerhorn said, pausing to wipe her eyes. "Instead of acting, he chose to look away."

Aspinwall's widow, Shayna Aspinwall, told the judge that one of her daughters still believed her husband was at football practice. Shayna Aspinwall, herself a former teacher, said she can no longer enter a classroom for fear of leaving her two daughters orphaned.

"He was a single parent by choice," she said of Gray. "I am now a solo parent because of his actions."

Months before the September 2024 shooting, prosecutors in Michigan won convictions for involuntary manslaughter against Jennifer and James Crumbley, whose son committed a school shooting in that state in 2021. Since then, officials in several states have followed in criminally investigating parents of school shooters, including in Wisconsin and Texas.

Brian Hobbs, Gray's attorney, asked Primm for a 20-year sentence with 10 years in prison, similar to the Crumbleys' punishments in Michigan. Hobbs argued that Colt concealed his plans from his father.

"No parent is trained to look at his own child and see a school shooter," he said.

Prosecutors presented posters of previous school shootings that Colt Gray had kept in his room in the month before he carried out the attack.

"This was the risk that was staring him in the face every day," prosecutor Brad Smith said.

Primm, who two days before called Colt Gray's actions "evil" before sentencing him to life in prison, struck a more deliberative tone with the elder Gray.

"Never before have I found my position less enviable than I do today," Primm said.

Brady Dennis and Daniel Wu contributed to this report.

Former wife files new restraining order against Republican Rep. Max Miller

BY AMY B WANG

Emily Moreno, the daughter of Sen. Bernie Moreno (R-Ohio), has filed for a new restraining order against her ex-husband, Rep. Max Miller (R-Ohio), whom she has accused of domestic violence.

In the request, dated Thursday, Emily Moreno alleged that Miller physically grabbed one of her attorneys, Andrew Zashin, during a hearing Tuesday and used a profane slur to insult Zashin's fiancee as they were leaving the courtroom.

"Upon seeing Attorney Zashin begin to turn around, [Miller] continued to goad Attorney Zashin into a confrontation by saying 'Come at me!' or similar language," Moreno said in the request.

"Unless restrained, [Miller] will continue to harass, threaten, and communicate with my counsel directly," Moreno said.

Zashin declined to comment on Thursday and representatives for Miller did not immediately respond to requests from The Washington Post.

Miller and Moreno, who have been engaged in a bitter custody fight that has involved allegations of domestic abuse, already have restraining orders against one another. The two married in August 2022, had a daughter in November 2023 and divorced in June 2025. Miller, 37, is running for a third term representing Ohio's 7th Congressional District.

Moreno accused Miller in court filings of throwing hot water on her from a pan of eggs he had just cooked in June 2024, on the day she said she planned to leave him. She said that caused her to fall to the floor and Miller afterward sprayed her with the sink hose.

Moreno has also accused Miller of physically abusing their 2-year-old daughter, who in February suffered a fractured collarbone with "a bruise that accompanies the injury that appears to be in a handprint and appears to have been inflicted," according to a police report.

In the same report, Moreno told police that Miller allegedly once held a gun to her head and was physically abusive to her in front of their daughter.

Miller has denied all allegations of physical abuse against Moreno and his daughter, and suggested that his ex-wife was fabricating them because she was mentally ill.

JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

Max Miller, now a Republican congressman from Ohio, is shown in 2021.

"They're false allegations," Miller told Spectrum News last month.

Moreno's attorneys have previously denied that she is mentally ill. Miller has also accused his ex-wife of domestic violence, but a judge formally dismissed Miller's case against Moreno this week, finding that he "was not under any apparent infirmity and did not appear to have been threatened by or in fear of [his ex-wife]."

Miller also accused his former father-in-law in a post on X of "antics" and of funding and enabling "his daughter's malicious campaign to ruin my life despite his knowledge of her mental health issues."

Sen. Bernie Moreno, who, like Miller, is a close ally of President Donald Trump, had before Thursday not publicly commented on his daughter's allegations against her ex-husband.

In a statement Thursday, Reagan McCarthy, the senator's spokesperson, said that his "top priority is the safety and well-being of his daughter and granddaughter."

"While he does not litigate these matters in the media or respond to baseless public attacks, he will do whatever it takes to ensure a just outcome for his family," McCarthy said.

Anna Liss-Roy and Aaron Schaffer contributed to this report.

DIGEST

ELECTIONS

Political pressure stirs Americans' concerns

Americans of both parties are concerned about election integrity and democratic processes ahead of the midterm elections, a new Gallup poll shows.

Sixty-seven percent of Americans are concerned about political leaders pressuring election officials to change election outcomes, according to the poll, including 77 percent of Democrats and 56 percent of Republicans. More Republicans, 66 percent, said they were concerned about ballots being improperly handled, counted or secured, compared with 52 percent of Democrats.

The poll found that most Americans, including 78 percent of Republicans, are also concerned with ineligible voters casting ballots in elections.

The poll also shows that Americans are concerned about the political system outside of elections. Eighty percent said they are concerned about political leaders taking possibly illegal actions, 77 percent said so for gerrymandering, and 64 percent expressed concern with people being harmed during peaceful protests by federal agents, military or law enforcement.

The poll comes as President Donald Trump has sought to change election rules ahead of the midterms. Republican officials have grown increasingly concerned with election security in recent years, prompting efforts to crack down on mail-in voting, impose voter identification checks when casting ballots, and mandate citizenship tests to register to vote.

Republican senators have rebuffed Trump's asks to pass the identification and proof of citizenship requirements, and courts have pushed back on several administration priorities related to elections.

The Gallup poll was conducted online and by mail between April 24 and June 10 among 21,652 U.S. adults.

— Ben Binday

PUBLIC HEALTH

CDC director pick clears Senate panel

The Senate health committee on Thursday voted 13-10 to advance the nomination of Erica Schwartz, President Donald Trump's pick to run the Centers for Disease Central and Prevention.

Schwartz's nomination, which was supported by committee Republicans and one Democrat, Sen. Tim Kaine (Virginia), now heads to the Senate floor.

Schwartz, a physician, was a deputy U.S. surgeon general during Trump's first term and has received support from public health groups. She largely sidestepped questions from the committee earlier this month, including from its chairman, Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-Louisiana), over whether she would stand up to Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. if he sought to override scientific recommendations on vaccines.

The Washington Post in April first reported that Schwartz was Trump's latest CDC pick. The White House last year withdrew its first choice, former congressman Dave Weldon (R-Florida). The second, Susan Monarez, was confirmed by the Senate but swiftly fired after clashing with Kennedy over his vaccine agenda.

The committee also narrowly advanced Sean Kaufman, Trump's nominee to lead the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, in a 12-11 party line vote amid questions about his past anti-vaccine statements. ASPR oversees the nation's preparedness for pandemics, bioterrorism and other public health emergencies.

— Dan Diamond and Lena H. Sun

IRAN WAR

Vote to limit war powers fails in Senate

The Senate rejected a largely symbolic effort to halt the war in Iran on Thursday, the latest setback for congressional Democrats seeking to limit the Trump administration's military campaign.

The 50-to-49 vote marks the second such war powers resolution that has failed in the Senate over the last two weeks.

U.S. Central Command struck dozens of Iranian targets Wednesday night in retaliation for Iran's attacks on American and allied military sites earlier this week.

The tit-for-tat strikes represent the latest escalation in the Iran war, which has intensified after a ceasefire between Washington and Tehran faltered weeks ago.

Lawmakers from both parties have previously sought to limit the Trump administration's airstrike campaign, but their efforts have failed to halt the fighting.

In June, the House and Senate passed a war powers resolution intended to block the Pentagon from further strikes without the approval of lawmakers.

The House passed another such measure last week.

President Donald Trump has argued that the votes do not carry the weight of law and has declined to abide by the resolutions.

Rep. Gregory Meeks (New York), the top Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has said he intends to challenge the administration in court for what he argues is an attempt to circumvent the will of Congress.

— Noah Robertson

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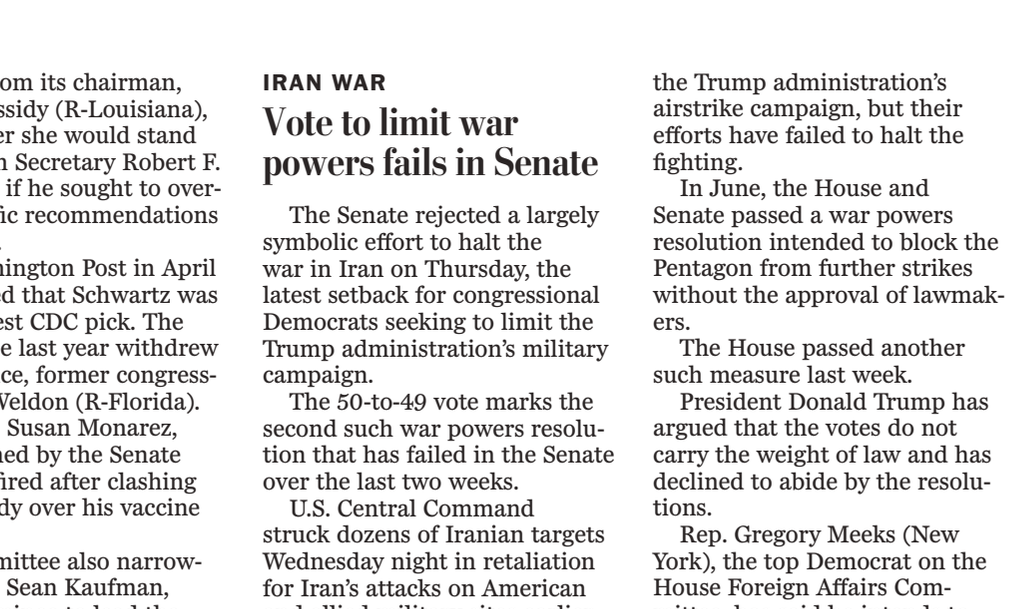

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ICE enforcement actions involving visa overstays reported across the country

ICE FROM **A1**

Similar ICE enforcement actions involving visa overstays have been reported at airports across the country, including in San Francisco, Houston and Denver, as the Trump administration looks to step up deportations, according to lawyers and media reports.

"This administration is working diligently to ensure that aliens in our country illegally can no longer fly unless it is out of our country to self-deport," a spokesperson for the Department of Homeland Security said in a statement.

Atenas Burrola Estrada, deputy program director at the Amica Center for Immigrant Rights, said her group was aware of about a dozen arrests at Reagan National, Washington Dulles International and Baltimore-Washington International Marshall (BWI) airports.

"The profile of people who are being arrested has largely changed," Burrola Estrada said. "It's people who entered the country lawfully and then overstayed, many of them because they feared persecution. Some of them have pending asylum applications, many of them seem to have work permits, and now they're being targeted for arrest."

"We've been saying for a while: If you don't have permanent status, you should really consider whether it's safe to fly," Burrola Estrada added. "I think a lot of people were still flying, and it was safe, and that is clearly not the case anymore."

The arrests appear to stem from increased information sharing between ICE and the Transportation Security Administration. TSA last year began supplying ICE with data on passengers suspected to have been ordered deported. In May, the two agencies signed an information-sharing agreement, according to a memo published this week by the watchdog group American Oversight.

"Information sharing between ICE and TSA is essential in identifying who is attempting to travel in our country, including violent criminals, to keep our skies and our country safe," according to the DHS statement.

In a social media post earlier this week, a coalition of immigrants' rights groups reported an "uptick in detentions of noncitizens without status at DMV area airports" and advised passengers to assess their personal risk before flying.

The recent D.C. arrests include multiple foreign nationals who sought asylum because of a fear of persecution in their home countries.

Paul, who spoke on the condition that The Post not use his last name for fear of retaliation, was detained by ICE officials at Dulles Airport late last week after he returned from a trip to Hawaii with his family. After the aircraft landed, Paul said, a flight attendant called him to the front of the plane, where two plainclothes ICE officers were waiting to take him into custody.

As he was being processed at an ICE field office in Virginia, Paul said, he began to feel his chest tighten and had difficulty breathing before he collapsed from a heart attack. He was rushed to a hospital, treated and then released back to ICE custody. Authorities later released him under a preexisting ICE supervision arrangement, according to his attorney, Jay S. Marks. Paul's next check-in with ICE is scheduled for September.

Marks said Paul has an order withholding his removal to his home country, India, based on the U.N. Convention Against Torture. "They can't send him to his home country. They can send him to a third country, which they will likely do at some point," he said.

"It's an entirely new level of aggressiveness," Marks said of the spike in airport arrests. "People think they're simply taking a domestic flight. They're going to see family or they're going to do this or that. And in fact, ICE has triangulated with TSA and with the airlines and has now got this individual in their sights."

In another case, ICE agents arrested a Colombian woman on July 17 as she was about to board a Southwest Airlines flight to Florida at BWI.

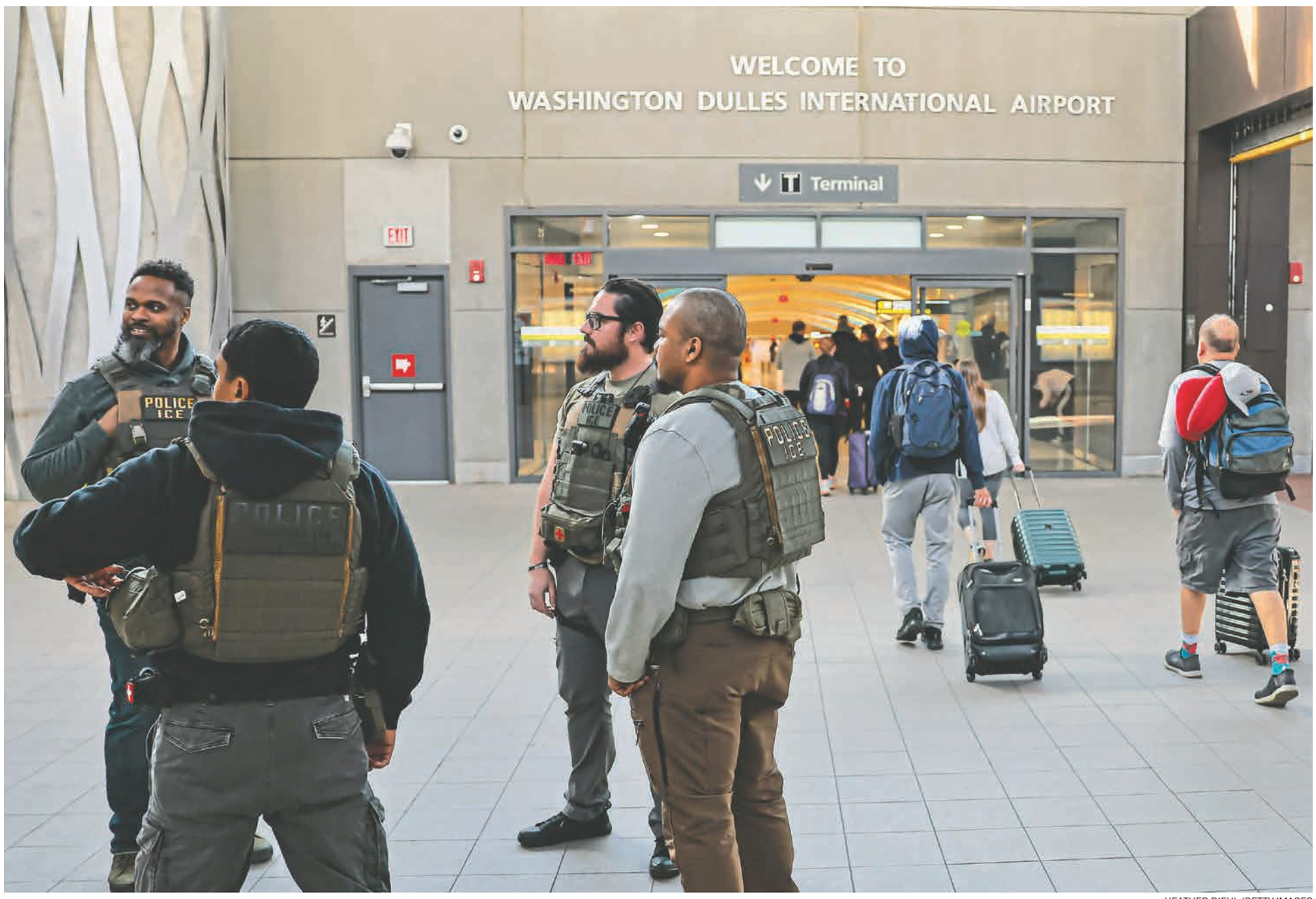
The woman was waiting at the gate with her fiancé, who is an American citizen, when an airline worker asked her over the loudspeaker to come up to the gate, where ICE agents were waiting, according to the woman's attorney, Johanna Kelley.

"There were two or three men, without uniform, without ID, in regular clothing," Kelley said. "Then they said, 'We are ICE. You need to come with us. You are arrested because you're an illegal alien.'"

Kelley said her client, whose identity she asked to be kept private over concerns it would negatively impact her case, came to the United States from Colombia about four years ago with a visitor visa. Kelley said her client was fleeing persecution in her home country and later filed an asylum claim, which is still pending.

The woman was detained for several hours at the airport, Kelley said, before being transferred to an ICE facility in Baltimore, and then to an ICE facility in Virginia. She was then transferred to an ICE facility in Louisiana before an immigration judge in Virginia granted her a bond this week. She was released from ICE custody on Wednesday but is still facing removal from the country, Kelley said.

Kelley said she's in a Facebook group with immigration attorneys from across the country. Around the time that her client was detained, she said, "so many lawyers started reporting the same."



HEATHER DIEHL/GETTY IMAGES

Immigration lawyers say ICE officials have stepped up enforcement at the three D.C-area airports, including Dulles.

DOJ aims to deport alleged ISIS adherent in first use of decades-old court

System established by Congress in 1996 has been dormant until now

BY SALVADOR RIZZO

A federal court that had been dormant since its creation three decades ago held its first public hearing in Washington on Thursday, as a prosecutor and public defender argued over the first steps in deportation proceedings for a woman from Afghanistan who is alleged to be an Islamic State adherent.

It is the first case to be heard by the Alien Terrorist Removal Court since it was established by Congress in 1996, and it quickly raised a host of complex questions about due process and access to classified evidence.

Although the court was envisioned as a tool to quickly remove suspected terrorists without revealing too much classified information, past administrations never attempted to bring a case.

The Trump administration since last year has ramped up efforts to deport migrants through any legal avenues. Justice Department officials said they are using the specialized court for the first time in history partly because it allows for the deportation of dangerous individuals without having to disclose "sensitive classified information in a traditional removal proceeding."

In court records unsealed Wednesday, the Justice Department alleged that Nazira Haji Zada, a lawful permanent resident from Fort Worth, played an active role in an unsuccessful plot by her son and son-in-law to carry out a mass shooting inspired by the Islamic State on Election Day in 2024.

The son, Abdullah Haji Zada, who was 17 years old at the time of his arrest in 2024, pleaded guilty to a terrorism offense involving a firearm and is serving a 15-year prison sentence. He has agreed to be deported to Afghanistan after completing his term. The son-in-law, Nasir Ahmad Tawhedi, 28, has pleaded guilty to terrorism charges including conspiring to provide support to the Islamic State and is awaiting sentencing.

The Justice Department described Nazira Haji Zada, 47, as the "matriarch" of the group. She was arrested this week by federal agents and appeared in court Thursday, nodding or giving brief responses to the judge through an interpreter.

The government alleged Haji Zada went along with plans to move back to Afghanistan along with other female relatives while the two men stayed behind in the United States to carry out the mass shooting on the day of the 2024 fall elections. Her son and son-in-law were arrested in October of that year.

In an unclassified court filing, U.S. officials said Haji Zada also worked with Tawhedi "to radicalize the family and to conceal their pro-ISIS teaching." All the while, she was hiding their plans from her "unsuspecting husband," prosecutors said.

"She has formally pledged loyalty to ISIS," a prosecutor, Hayden O'Byrne, said at the hearing Thursday.

A federal public defender, Matthew Farley, asked for Haji Zada's immediate release. He argued the court's untested procedures were fundamentally unfair for the accused and infringed on Haji Zada's rights under the First, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth amendments.

"This entire scheme is in violation of due process and unconstitutional," Farley argued at the hearing.

"This is a runaround to bringing a criminal case," he added.

Little information was revealed in court about Haji Zada's life or time in the United States, but the case is expected to delve into a bevy of legal and factual issues over the next months.

The Alien Terrorist Removal Court's chief judge, Joan N. Ericksen, normally sits as a federal district judge in Minnesota. The five judges who serve on the Alien Terrorist Removal Court are designated by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.

The Alien Terrorist Removal Court does not hear criminal cases, only civil matters focused on whether to deport certain individuals who are accused of having terrorist ties. The government faces a lower evidentiary burden than it would in a criminal case.

The terrorist removal court requires a preponderance of the evidence to authorize a deportation, which is a lower legal standard than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. The court's rulings can be appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Thursday's hearing mostly resembled proceedings in federal court, though it ran into some first-day jitters such as screeching microphone feedback, a telephone ringing loudly on the speakers, questions about how to file documents on the court's docket and novel arguments about the defense team's ability to access classified evidence under the court's special rules.

"This is the court's first case, and the court is in the first stages of developing an infrastructure," Ericksen said at the outset of the hearing. She said she would proceed with "exactness, carefulness, circumspection and fealty to the Constitution."

The judge said defense attorneys "have a right to review the classified information" and that she was inclined to follow the "CIPA model," a reference to the strict procedures for handling classified evidence in federal district courts, as outlined in the Classified Information Procedures Act.

The judge said she would confer in private with attorneys for both sides before setting further court dates, including a hearing in the coming days on whether to hold Haji Zada in detention as the case plays out, and a final removal hearing contemplated under the 1996 federal law establishing the court.

BONNIE JO MOUNT/THE WASHINGTON POST

Nazira Haji Zada, 47, was arrested this week by federal agents and appeared in court Thursday.

Thousands of immigrant children on verge of losing legal representation

A federal contract that provides attorneys is set to expire

BY ARELIS R. HERNÁNDEZ

SAN ANTONIO — Tens of thousands of immigrant children who arrived in the United States as unaccompanied minors in recent years may be forced to face a judge alone after a federal contract providing them legal representation expires on Friday.

The leaders of several nonprofit organizations that provide legal services to immigrant children say they will need to scale back or shutter their operations altogether starting next week. Collectively they represent about 24,000 children who crossed the nation's southern border without a parent. The groups have spent much of the last year providing legal counsel even though the federal government has not reimbursed them.

Without a renewed contract, the legal aid organizations say many children will have to defend themselves in immigration proceedings without a lawyer. Many of them do not speak English as their primary language, and their chances of deportation are likely to increase if they do not have an attorney.

Michael Lukens, executive director of the Amica Center for Immigrant Rights, which provides children legal representation in the Washington, D.C., area, said the contract's expiration comes as immigration judges and enforcement officers are pressuring unaccompanied minors to return home by signing voluntary departure forms.

"The best chance that a child has for a fair day in court and due process is to have an attorney at their side," Lukens said. "It's very clear the government is trying to take away that one piece of the puzzle."

The Office of Refugee Resettlement, which falls under the Department of Health and Human Services and oversees the shelters that house unaccompanied minors, said in a statement Thursday that the agency remains "fully compliant with its legal and regulatory obligations and does not act in any way that could dissuade a child from seeking appropriate legal relief."

SERGIO FLORES/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A Border Patrol agent offers water to a group of children apprehended near a highway outside of Eagle Pass, Texas, on Feb. 4, 2024.

ORR officials said they offered to extend the existing contract so long as the providers share information about their clients. Several nonprofit leaders said the federal government was asking for confidential information about the children they serve and their sponsors — who are usually parents or relatives seeking family reunification. The organizations said they are legally and ethically unable to disclose such data and fear authorities could use it to target families during enforcement operations.

"The best chance that a child has for a fair day in court and due process is to have an attorney at their side."

Michael Lukens, executive director of the Amica Center for Immigrant Rights

The Trump administration tried to halt some funding for attorneys to represent unaccompanied minors shortly after taking office last year. In February 2025, officials notified the Acacia Center for Justice that the organization needed to stop all work related to a $200 million contract that funds various groups providing the children attorneys. But a few days later, officials reversed course and restored it without explanation.

Nevertheless, the Trump administration stopped reimbursing legal aid organizations who operate under the contract last November. The groups estimate they are owed $65 million in payments, and some have had to dip into their reserves in order to keep working.

Congress passed bipartisan legislation nearly two decades ago that mandates the funding to protect children from exploitation. The federal government, providers argue, is obligated to pay these organizations with the money lawmakers appropriated.

"They are clearly trying to destroy the program by grinding down the financial health of nonprofits," Lukens said. "We have seen layoffs and furloughs and we will see a lot more of that if these invoices are not paid."

The legal services program also allows attorneys to monitor conditions inside federally funded shelters that house unaccompanied minors, some of which are not regulated by state officials. Many of the children in shelters are waiting to be reunited with parents or relatives, who can claim them by providing identification, financial and biometric information to the government to prove their relation.

Fewer than 2,500 children are currently in federal custody, and on average they are staying there for 117 days — four times longer than they did a year ago, federal data shows.

Many children qualify for immigration relief, such as special visas for juveniles, or win their asylum cases, attorneys said. Other children may choose to be repatriated, but the complexity of immigration law makes having an attorney necessary, advocates said.

Melissa Lopez, the executive director of Estrella del Paso, a legal services provider, recounted the case of a 7-year-old boy who went before an immigration judge in Texas. He told the judge he wanted to return to his home country, where his father had been deported.

His lawyer helped him navigate the best way to do that. Immigrants can file for a voluntary departure to leave the country and avoid a deportation order with more severe consequences, but a young child, she said, would not know the difference or how to do that.

"We cannot expect a child to have the level of understanding of these legal differences," Lopez said. "It's absurd."

Lopez said her organization will likely have to scale back its services in far west Texas and southern New Mexico. A year ago, Estrella had a team of 30 staff employees and attorneys. She expects just three staff members to continue serving 243 children in the weeks ahead. The organization is still waiting on $1.2 million in federal reimbursements for legal services provided through July, Lopez said.

"It's not a question of can philanthropy fill the gap," Lopez said. "The issue is the federal government is not meeting its obligations under the law."

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THE WORLD

‘Absolute chaos’ as thousands breach Morocco’s border with Spain’s Ceuta

BY RENATA BRITO AND ANTONIO SEMPERE
Associated Press

CEUTA, SPAIN — Thousands of migrants streamed into the tiny Spanish territory of Ceuta from Morocco on Thursday, prompting local officials to call on Spain to declare a national emergency and send the army to restore the frontier.

Spain’s interior ministry said it would guarantee the safety of citizens and the integrity of the nation’s border, but that the government could not declare a national emergency over migration concerns.

“The situation is absolute chaos,” said Rachid Sbihi, head of the association that represents Spain’s Civil Guard officers in Ceuta, who police the border. “It’s not possible to give precise numbers, but there are thousands of migrants crossing,” he said, adding that the border had “totally collapsed.”

Achraf Maimouni, a member of the Moroccan Association for Human Rights in northern Morocco, described the situation as “exceptional.”

“The Tarajal border was opened under unusual circumstances this morning and people crossed,” he said.

Video footage showed crowds of people, mainly Moroccans, walking around the breakwaters at Tarajal beach onto local roads. While the majority appeared to be young men, there were also families with women and children. “Viva España!” some shouted to a freelance photographer working for the Associated Press.

The escalation at the frontier between Spain and Morocco comes after a surge in migrants attempting to reach the small exclave, mainly by swimming, on Wednesday. It was not immediately clear what prompted so many migrants to cross to Ceuta. At least three people died attempting to reach Ceuta by sea, Sibhi and activists in both Morocco and Ceuta reported.

Moroccan authorities have not publicly commented on the crossings, and the interior ministry did not respond to requests for comment.

Spain’s interior ministry said the Moroccan government was “closely cooperating” with Spain to handle the situation, saying that Moroccan police are stopping “numerous people” who are trying to cross the border. Both countries agreed to work together “for the return, as soon as possible, of all the people who entered Ceuta illegally.”

Fernando Grande-Marlaska, the Spanish interior minister, will travel to Ceuta on Friday to evaluate the situation.

Spain is a main point of arrival into Europe for migrants seeking better economic opportunities or an escape from violence in their home countries.

To reach Ceuta, located on the northern African coast, migrants often swim from the Moroccan town of Fnideq — also known by its Spanish name, Castillejos — covering about 3.1 miles to reach Spanish territory. Others attempt the crossing from the nearby town of Belyounech, where the distance is shorter.

The scenes of people streaming across the frontier recall the border crisis of May 2021, when more than 8,000 migrants poured into Ceuta in just two days.

Juan Jesús Vivas Lara, the head of Ceuta’s regional government, called for the Spanish government to declare a national emergency on grounds of national security, asking for more police and for the army to be deployed to the border.

Vivas Lara said the additional police and soldiers would be necessary “to guarantee the inviolability of the frontier and citizens’ safety.”

He had warned on Wednesday that migrant reception centers were overwhelmed, with hundreds of people sleeping on the streets after more than 1,500 migrants entered the territory in the past week. But thousands more crossed overnight and Thursday.

Spain’s interior ministry, which tracks irregular migration, would not confirm the number of migrants who had made it to Ceuta in the last few days but said it would publish its next migration report on Aug. 3. As of July 15, nearly 3,000 migrants had entered Ceuta by land or sea this year, according to ministry figures.

Legislation covering a declaration of national emergencies does not consider migration flows a risk to national security, according to the ministry, which said government administrations are “coordinating to respond with speed and efficacy to the situation in Ceuta.”

Ceuta, which is perched on an isthmus, has been a Spanish territory since 1580. Its mixed population of Christians and Muslims, and Spanish and Moroccan residents and day workers, live in relative harmony behind a border fence that many desperate migrants from across Africa attempt to cross in hopes of finding a better life in Europe.

PHOTOS BY ANTONIO SEMPERE/AP

Moroccans swarm into the Spanish enclave of Ceuta. The scenes recall the border crisis of May 2021, when more than 8,000 migrants poured into Ceuta in just two days.

Spanish police officers respond as migrants cross from Morocco into the enclave of Ceuta on Thursday.

Spain’s interior ministry said the Moroccan government was “closely cooperating” with Spain to handle the situation, saying that Moroccan police are stopping “numerous people” who are trying to cross the border. Both countries agreed to work together “for the return, as soon as possible, of all the people who entered Ceuta illegally.”

DIGEST

JAPAN

Quake survivors try returning to normalcy

Residents in southwestern Japan camped in gyms and vehicles Thursday, stocked up on water and tried to get back to normal two days after a powerful quake set off an explosion at a mall, toppled a factory chimney and flattened homes in a disaster that killed at least 25 people.

Time was running out to find survivors, as rescuers continued to work in the Kumamoto area on Japan ’s southern main island of Kyushu, where the magnitude 7.1 earthquake hit Tuesday. The number of people missing was unclear.

Of the deaths given in the latest tally, 25 have been confirmed as related to the disaster, but there were nine more deaths under investigation as likely to be connected, the Kumamoto prefectural government said. The quake left at least 86 people injured, five of them seriously, it said.

Survivors spoke about desperately pulling family members out of the wreckage. Some had suffered injuries and were rushed to the hospital.

Thousands of people spent another night at evacuation centers set up throughout the area in gymnasiums and other big spaces. Some homes were still without water or electricity, while others were simply afraid to go back.

Nearly 19,000 homes were still without electricity and more than 9,000 people were staying in the roughly 400 shelters, where power sources were being added to provide air conditioning.

Concerns were growing about illness, including from the sweltering heat. The Ministry of Environment sent out a heatstroke alert for the Kumamoto area, with temperatures rising above 33 C (91 F) Thursday.

— Associated Press

PAKISTAN

Explosion kills at least 11 coal miners

An explosion inside a coal mine in southwest Pakistan killed at least eleven miners Thursday and trapped 31 others underground in what officials believed to be life-threatening conditions as rescuers raced to reach them.

The blast apparently was triggered by a buildup of methane gas and occurred on the outskirts of the Baluchistan provincial capital of Quetta, government mine inspector Ghani Baloch said.

The bodies of the seven miners initially were recovered hours after the deadly blast, and emergency responders later found four more bodies, officials said.

Baloch said rescue operations would continue until all the trapped miners were found, but he indicated that officials believed the death toll likely would rise further.

Baluchistan’s Minister for Mines and Minerals Shoaib Nosherwani said the rescue teams were working under extremely difficult conditions. He pledged that the provincial government would go all-out in the continuing response.

Nosherwani expressed condolences to relatives of the victims and said the provincial government would pay compensation of 500,000 Pakistani rupees (about $1,800) to the family of each miner killed in the blast.

— Associated Press

EUROPE

Fires rage alongside record-low water

As wildfires rage in France and Spain and a renewed heat wave is bearing down on Western Europe, a prolonged drought half a continent away is setting record low water levels on one of Europe’s largest rivers, disrupting tourism and industry and confronting residents with the realities of climate change .

The Danube River, which runs through 10 countries from southwestern Germany to the Black Sea, has receded to never-before-seen lows along much of its course, exposing rocks, sand bars and old shipwrecks that have rarely been seen before.

In Budapest, Hungary’s capital, the national water authority measured the Danube’s water level at 9 inches on Wednesday morning, well below the previous all-time low of 13 inches set in 2018.

The river is expected to further ebb in the coming days with no significant rain in the forecast and temperatures expected to rise to over 100 degrees across the region.

— Associated Press

Congo reports 1,500 Ebola deaths in fastest-growing outbreak

BY PROSPER HERI NGORORA AND MARK BANCHEREAU
Associated Press

BUNIA, CONGO — Ebola has killed more than 1,500 people in eastern Congo in the fastest-growing outbreak of the disease, data released Thursday showed, marking a 50 percent increase in around a week as the emergency continues to outpace response efforts.

As of Tuesday, 3,442 cases had been recorded, with 1,521 deaths, according to the latest government update. The sharp rise since last week partly reflects a backlog of cases and deaths that had not yet been confirmed or recorded, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday.

The outbreak, declared on May 15, has been linked to the Bundibugyo virus, for which there are no approved vaccines or treatments. Delays in contact tracing, difficulties accessing affected areas, mistrust from communities, and violence by armed groups and some residents have hampered the response, the Africa CDC said.

The outbreak is mostly concentrated in eastern Congo's remote Ituri province, which accounts for nearly 90 percent of cases. But there have been others confirmed in five provinces, including in one of the country's largest cities, Kisangani.

Neighboring Uganda declared itself free of Ebola on Tuesday, following the discharge of the country's last patient in mid-June.

Ebola is rare but highly contagious, and can be contracted via bodily fluids such as vomit, blood or semen. The disease it causes is severe and often fatal.

CONSTANT SAME BAGALWA/AP

Public health workers protest at the Elikya Ebola Treatment Center in Bunia, Congo, on Saturday.

Africa CDC Director General Jean Kaseya said Thursday that 63 percent of confirmed deaths in the last two weeks occurred outside of treatment centers.

Kaseya said this is largely due to the "unsafe handling of infected bodies" by residents. Traditional burial practices in some communities involve touching the bodies of the deceased, which can be highly contagious.

The restrictions that health authorities have placed on such funerals, along with widespread misinformation asserting that the deadly virus isn't real, have angered some residents and led to attacks on health facilities.

In Ituri's Nyakunde health zone, international partners supporting the Ebola response had to temporarily relocate after a July 15 attack on a hospital and a treatment center, sparked by a patient's death.

Officials say the relocation of these partners, including Africa CDC and Mercy Corps, has disrupted surveillance, contact tracing and supplies.

Désiré Duabo, chief medical officer for the health zone, said foreign aid groups and agencies had provided much of the supplies, equipment and operational support but warned that stocks were "almost depleted."

Attacks such as the one in Nyakunde are causing anxiety among health workers and making it difficult for them to carry out their duties, said Pierre Akilimali, the Ebola response incident manager at the National Public Health Institute of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"They are working amidst risks of infection as well as risks to their personal safety," he said.

Local health officials say security has since stabilized and are urging partners to return, with Africa CDC saying teams could redeploy as soon as next week.

The latest outbreak has killed more people at a quicker rate than any previous outbreak, including in 2014-2016, when 28,000 cases were reported, of which more than 11,000 people died. That outbreak took about eight months to reach 1,000 deaths.

The World Health Organization says the global risk of spread remains low because Ebola does not travel through the air, making it much harder to spread than respiratory viruses. Cases detected outside the affected region have so far been quickly identified and contained without leading to sustained transmission, the agency said.

In Congo, however, the risk of spreading the virus remains "very high," according to the WHO.

Sudanese kids trained by Colombian mercenaries recount horrors of war

BY SAM MEDNICK, ISABEL DEBRE AND ASTRID SUÁREZ
Associated Press

KHARTOUM, SUDAN — The teenage boy's hands and legs were shackled to the antiaircraft gun mounted on a pickup as Sudanese warplanes attacked. He saw another child chained to the steering wheel.

As their captors sought cover, the terrified children were ordered to stay and shoot down the jets over the capital, Khartoum. If they tried to flee, they'd be killed by their captors — if the planes didn't get them first.

The boy, now 17, told the Associated Press that those who ordered him strapped to the gun were Colombian mercenaries providing military aid to Sudan's Rapid Support Forces against the army in the war, now in its fourth year. Another child said he was forced to carry out artillery strikes and beaten for disobedience.

The rare firsthand accounts show the perils faced by tens of thousands of children believed to have been conscripted into the war by all sides. Six former child soldiers who were abducted and forced to fight with the Rapid Support Forces, known as the RSF, spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal. Two said they were trained by Colombians.

Their accounts point to a wider deployment of Colombian mercenaries, who rights groups say were recruited by a state-linked firm in the United Arab Emirates to fight with the RSF. Human rights groups and Sudan's military accuse the UAE of arming the RSF, and a U.N. panel said it had tracked weapons shipments to the RSF originating in the Persian Gulf federation that includes Dubai.

The UAE did not respond to multiple requests for comment. It has previously denied arming the RSF, saying the shipments in question were of humanitarian aid for refugees.

The boy who had been shackled to the gun burst into tears as he ran his hand over scars from the 18 months he was forced to fight.

"I was extremely scared. I just wanted to escape and go home," he said.

The children were shackled day and night

He said he was rounded up by RSF fighters in a market in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman, where he was selling cigarettes. The paramilitaries personnel were searching for deserters and seized him by mistake, he said. He was 15 at the time.

Never having held a gun, he was thrust onto the front lines in Khartoum. Scars on his head and under his eye mark where he says he was hit by shrapnel.

He was later taken to an RSF base in Omdurman known as Central Reserve Camp, where he was held with dozens of other children. Their hands were bound at all times, even while eating.

SAM MEDNICK/AP

Former child soldiers stand in line to be registered with UNICEF in Yambio, South Sudan, in 2018.

"We weren't allowed to bathe. Instead, they would pour water over us while we were still bound," he said.

He said dozens of foreign mercenaries were at the base, described as Colombians by the RSF fighters there. Speaking through translators, they taught the children how to use antiaircraft guns. They told RSF fighters to bind the children to the weapons so they couldn't escape, he said.

"When the planes flew overhead, the Colombians would retreat to their bunkers, leaving us outside shackled to the vehicles," the teenager said. He was forced to fire, but he said he was too afraid and never hit anything.

A second boy recounts beatings, and a friend's killing

The second boy described how, at age 15, he was held at an RSF camp called al-Konan, where he said Colombians trained him and other boys on heavy artillery and drones.

He said he was locked up and only brought out for artillery strikes. The Colombians and the RSF used drones to choose targets, and sometimes he saw civilians through the camera. When he refused to fire, they would beat him, sometimes with an electric baton. In one case, he said, a Colombian beat him unconscious.

An 18-year-old friend tried to flee and was shot dead by the RSF. He carried the body away.

"I still have nightmares whenever I try to sleep," he said.

Both children spoke at a facility run by the military-backed government on Khartoum's outskirts, where more than 200 former child soldiers were being rehabilitated. Many fell into the hands of the military when it retook the capital from the RSF over the past year.

A member of the military media office accompanied the AP during the visit. The official did not choose whom the AP interviewed.

Veterans of Colombia's long wars have hired themselves out

The AP could not independently verify the boys' accounts, which are consistent with other reporting on the conflict. Multiple countries are entangled in Sudan's conflict, and other foreigners, including Russians and Ukrainians, have taken part in hostilities.

Some 10,000 Colombians have hired themselves out for foreign wars, including in Somalia, Ukraine and Sudan, according to the U.N. Colombia's decades of internal conflict, involving guerrillas, paramilitaries and drug traffickers, have produced a large cadre of veterans prized for their U.S.-backed military training and driven abroad by meager pensions and scarce civilian job prospects.

A recent law bars Colombians from fighting in foreign conflicts, but veterans groups say recruitment has continued.

Human Rights Watch and Conflict Insights Group, a private research firm, have documented the presence of Colombian mercenaries alongside the RSF in Sudan's western region of Darfur, including during the October capture of El Fashir, where RSF fighters have been accused of mass killings.

In separate reports this year, Human Rights Watch and Conflict Insights Group said the Colombians were hired by an Emirati contractor and trained in Emirati military bases. The UAE denied those allegations at the time, telling the BBC it had no involvement in recruiting or training foreign fighters, and that it would investigate and prosecute any entity suspected of doing so.

A Colombian mercenary who fought in Darfur for six months in 2025 told the AP that hundreds of Colombians were on the front lines with the RSF at the time and were involved in training recruits. He said he saw children as young as 13 fighting with the RSF. He spoke on the condition of anonymity out of concern for legal consequences.

Less is known of the Colombians' role in Khartoum. Ali Qader, the head of the rehabilitation center, said several children told him Colombians had trained them at camps around the capital.

A former RSF fighter, who defected to the government side and spoke on the condition of anonymity because of security concerns, said he saw Colombians training children in Khartoum in July 2024. A Sudanese military officer with knowledge of the situation said Colombians were training children in and around Khartoum when the RSF held the city. The officer was not authorized to brief reporters and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The Colombian government said it has no official information confirming allegations that Colombians recruited or trained child soldiers in Sudan. It condemned such abuses.

Child recruitment is a war crime

Tens of thousands of children as young as 8 have been recruited during Sudan's war, according to Abdelgadir Abdullah Abu Ali, secretary general of Sudan's National Council for Child Welfare, a government body.

The U.N. says all sides in the conflict have used child soldiers, including militias allied with the government. Many are believed to still be on the front lines. The RSF and the Sudanese government did not respond to detailed requests for comment.

The RSF have roots in the Janjaweed militias that rampaged across Darfur in the early 2000s. Sudan's then-president, Omar al-Bashir, was indicted for war crimes and genocide by the International Criminal Court over that campaign.

Rights groups say the RSF employs similar tactics today, and that the UAE's alleged support for it could implicate the Gulf country.

"The evidence suggests the UAE could be substantially contributing to the RSF's widespread crimes against humanity," said Jean-Baptiste Gallopin, a senior adviser at Human Rights Watch.

Children returning from the front often have nowhere to go

At the rehabilitation center, which included a soccer field and volleyball net, boys dressed in white uniforms showed an AP reporter their wounds. One was missing a hand; another had scars on his back from where he said he was tortured; a third had a bone jutting out of his side.

The boy held at the Central Reserve Camp said that at one point, when he was tied to the antiaircraft gun, he refused to fire on a jet. RSF fighters shot at him as punishment, wounding his foot.

The wound filled with worms, he said. Eventually, the fighters abandoned him because of it, and he was later brought to the youth facility.

Wiping away tears, he said he's aching to return home. His mother died from illness during the war, and his father told him he was ashamed of what his son had done and doesn't want to see him.

Zeinab Mahjoub, a psychologist at the facility, said she tries to persuade relatives not to abandon the boys. At the same time, the boys are wrestling with their own trauma.

Sheldon Yett, head of the U.N. children's agency in Sudan, said it was working with the government and other parties to speed up the process of releasing the boys, trying to persuade authorities to treat "children as children."

Since the AP visited the center in April, the children have been released.

The boy held at the al-Konan camp said that after nearly two years, he escaped one night when a guard left a door unlocked. He tried returning to his family, but someone in the area knew he had fought with the RSF and reported him to the authorities, who referred him to the center.

He's trying to move on but is wrestling with guilt.

"We have made mistakes," he said. "We want to get out of here to rebuild Sudan."

Trump's claims of election interference in doubt after release of intelligence

BY ISAAC ARNSDORF AND PATRICK MARLEY

State officials said federal authorities never notified them of a Chinese hack affecting their voter registration systems, casting doubt on President Donald Trump's claims of vulnerabilities in U.S. elections.

Officials in 12 of the 15 states named in intelligence reports released by the White House as having voter rolls "compromised" by China said officials never notified them of a data breach, a standard step for federal law enforcement when hacks are discovered. The other three states and Washington, D.C., did not respond. Trump alleged in a July 16 prime-time speech that the data had been "bought, stolen or hacked."

The states' responses and newly declassified intelligence reports suggest China obtained voter data from other sources, such as political parties or companies that compile and combine it with other information to target voters or consumers. Experts said the effort appeared aimed at collecting data on Americans for intelligence purposes, not interfering with voting.

The declassified documents do not contain evidence that China ever tampered with voter rolls or ballots, or had the ability to, consistent with U.S. spy agencies' consensus that China did not try to tamper with election infrastructure in 2020. Voter files are public records available online or on request.

"They haven't changed data," Pamela Smith, chief executive of election security organization Verified Voting, said of America's foreign adversaries. "They haven't modified data. They haven't deleted data. They just have some data."

Trump used the newly released intelligence to pressure Senate Republicans for new requirements for voter ID and proof of citizenship. But his claims were met with skepticism, even from some supporters, eliciting frustration from the White House.

On Thursday, the task force reviewing spy agencies' handling of intelligence on foreign election interference released a new statement, repeating Trump's claim that China and its proxies "bought, stole or hacked" voter records and claiming that the cache included some data that was not publicly available.

The task force did not provide additional evidence to support those claims. Instead, it pointed to one of the documents released on July 16 saying a Chinese hacker obtained "publicly available U.S. voter registration information" from commercial websites in January 2022, too late to have any bearing on the 2020 election.

That memo, whose date was not disclosed, said a Chinese "CNE Actor" — jargon for a "computer network exploitation," generally known as hacking — downloaded voter registration data for six states from commercial websites. The hacker also tried to access an individual Ohio voter's registration application, the memo said.

DAVID DEE DELGADO/GETTY IMAGES

Voting booths in Brooklyn in 2020. The recently declassified evidence points to Beijing seeking personal data for espionage, not interfering with voting.

U.S. officials did not know why the Chinese hacker took the information, the memo said, but it could "in theory" be used for future hacking or "election influence."

The memo said officials should notify the victims of the data breach. But the six states named in this report — Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Michigan, Oklahoma and Rhode Island — all said they were never informed of their voter data being hacked.

"Florida voter registration data has not been hacked," said Gretl Plessinger, a spokeswoman for the Florida Department of State, led by Cord Byrd, a Republican appointee. The state's voter file is publicly available online, which she said was how the Chinese obtained it.

Connecticut's voter registration system is not connected to the internet, said Matthew Clyburn, a spokesman for Connecticut Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas, a Democrat. The FBI has repeatedly asked the office to review voter data found on the dark web, and each time the information matched publicly available data with no confidential information, he said.

A spokeswoman for Rhode Island's secretary of state, a Democrat, said the White House has not provided any evidence of inappropriate data use, and the data referenced in the declassified documents was all publicly available. The spokeswoman, Faith Chybowski, suggested the Trump administration is hypocritical because it has unsuccessfully sued Rhode Island — as it has 29 other states — for its voter rolls, including confidential information.

Federal officials informed the Ohio secretary of state's office about 10 years ago that China might have accessed publicly available election data, the same information available to anyone with an internet connection, spokesman Ben Kindel said. The office is led by Republican Frank LaRose.

Election officials are constantly thwarting hacking attempts, and they have triggers that would quickly alert them if anyone got into their systems, according to Tammy Patrick, chief program officer at the Election Center, an association of election officials.

"It is not a good thing that there were attempted breaches of voter registration systems, but that is a daily occurrence in the United States of America that election officials safeguard against," she said.

The White House pointed to another undated declassified document released on July 16 that lists Chinese databases targeted as of 2019, including a nationwide set of 204.8 million voter records. Because no official state or federal database containing nationwide registered voters exists, the document suggests the data came from a party or company, not from penetrating an official election system.

Acquiring that voter data was part of wider Chinese efforts to collect bulk data on Americans, the document said, including information from medical groups, schools, business service companies, internet companies, social networks, unions, professional associations and think tanks. Chinese hackers stole federal government personnel records, Anthem medical data and United Airlines data all in 2015, Equifax credit histories in 2017, and Marriott hotel files in 2018.

"It's just another drop in the big data bucket that allows for better targeting of intelligence targets abroad," said Dakota Cary, a China expert at the Atlantic Council, a think tank, and SentinelOne, a cybersecurity company. "It's helpful when the security services have to figure out who they want to talk to and to learn about somebody before going out and trying to pitch or recruit them or coerce them."

Another heavily redacted document with no date said China planned to use voter registration data from 18 states "to conduct U.S. person matching and public opinion analysis" and to identify "important U.S. targets."

The overall picture suggests a Chinese government keenly interested in surveilling and influencing Americans, according to Peter Mattis, a former counterintelligence official on China, now president of the Jamestown Foundation think tank, which focuses on defense policy.

"We have a large country with a hostile regime ruling it with the capability, means and intent to mess around with a core feature of U.S. sovereignty," he said of the voter registration data. "We actually have what you might call a China-size problem, and we should take it seriously."

Still, the White House identified "no altered record or changed vote, and provides no evidence a foreign actor touched any technical part of the 2020 election," said Julia Curlee, who served as a director for intelligence programs in Trump's White House until last year and recently resigned from the CIA after 20 years as an analyst.

Without evidence that the hackers broke into the systems that states use to operate elections, there would be no way for them to add, delete or modify voter registrations.

The White House task force's statement on Thursday said it was approved by the heads of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the National Security Agency, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Department of Homeland Security. Those officials did not put their own names to the statement. The White House statement did not mention other major intelligence agencies, such as the FBI.

For comparison, then-DNI James R. Clapper Jr. and DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson put their names on a statement in October 2016 warning of Russian interference in the next month's presidential election.

Experts also noted that the Trump administration has not taken any action to punish China for obtaining the data, indicating the danger is not as severe as the White House was suggesting.

"It took place a long time ago. I think China is maybe a little bit different today than it was then," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office on July 21. "We do things to them too, it's not a one-way street. But we'll be talking to them."

Warren Strobel and Ellen Nakashima contributed to this report.

First arrest under Macao's national security law stokes fears over fairness

BY KANIS LEUNG
Associated Press

HONG KONG — When former Macao pro-democracy lawmaker Au Kam San was arrested in July 2025, his family and observers of politics in the Chinese special administrative region were shocked. A year later, little is known about his case, even by his daughter.

Au is the first publicly known arrest under Macao's national security law since its 2009 enactment, and critics say his case signals Beijing's emphasis on security and intolerance of dissenting voices, even though Macao's pro-democracy activism has never been as influential as the movement in neighboring Hong Kong.

Au is accused of providing false information to anti-China organizations overseas to incite hatred against Beijing and the government in Macao, which has become a Chinese casino hub.

He has faced several restrictions since his arrest, including choice of a lawyer, raising concerns over the fairness of a future trial.

Au's daughter in London, Au Hon I, said a lawyer found by the family was not allowed to see him in prison, and authorities seized books from his home relating to the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy movement.

"For almost a year, my family could not speak with my father, as he was kept in cruel incommunicado detention," she said. "Now we are still unable to speak to him about his case, nor provide him with a lawyer so he can properly fight his case."

The family learned through a court statement that the 69-year-old had a preliminary proceeding on July 2, she said. The statement said his lawyer was appointed by the court and approved by Au Kam San.

"He always believed in the justice system of Macao," his daughter said. "He believed it so much that he feels that he will be protected."

The Macao government did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Accused of assisting anti-China groups

Macao is a former Portuguese colony that has operated, like Hong Kong, as a special administrative region since its return to Chinese rule in 1999. Au served as a lawmaker in the legislature, which is dominated by Beijing loyalists, before stepping down in 2021.

Prior to his arrest, Au remained a rare voice who regularly criticized government measures and political developments on Facebook and in interviews, although many considered his critiques to be mild.

When Au was arrested, police alleged that he had colluded with an unspecified anti-China group outside the city and provided false and seditious materials for public display online or abroad. He also was accused of maintaining long-term contact with multiple entities beyond Macao that oppose China and repeatedly providing false information to them or their media outlets.

A court upheld the indictment on July 2, ruling that Au was the "perpetrator" in multiple offenses, including subverting state power, breach of confidentiality, and establishing contact with organizations, groups or people outside Macao to commit acts endangering national security.

CHERRY AU HON/AP

Macao's pro-democracy former lawmaker Au Kam San poses for a photo last year during a trip in Norway a month before his arrest.

A defendant convicted on multiple charges could face up to 30 years in prison.

The judge also approved the appointment of Au's lawyer, citing the need to protect national security interests and a binding opinion issued by the city's national security committee, which is led by Macao Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai.

The court said Au's rights were ensured under the law. The prosecution office website said this kind of preliminary hearing is not open to the public.

There was no indication whether the trial would be public, and a date has not been announced. Macao law allows judges to hold proceedings behind closed doors when the court and the security committee decide that hearing a case publicly could harm national security.

Macao's treatment of Au differs from Hong Kong cases

While Au's case has no precedent in Macao, Hong Kong has made over 400 arrests linked to alleged acts of endangering national security and has convicted more than 180 people under a years-long crackdown that began after Beijing imposed a national security law in 2020.

Critics say Au's situation, in some ways, is even more difficult than Hong Kong cases.

Former media mogul and pro-democracy activist Jimmy Lai was arrested in 2020. But even Lai, who received the harshest sentence of 20 years' imprisonment, could receive visits in jail from his family shortly after he was locked up. While a British lawyer was blocked from representing Lai, he was able to hire other lawyers of his choice.

"It's much worse than Hong Kong," Au Hon I said of her father's case.

Michael Polak, a barrister who represents Au Kam San overseas, said the Portuguese consulate requested but was denied access to Au, who also is a Portuguese citizen. The situation is similar to that of Lai, a British citizen denied U.K. consular access because China does not recognize dual nationality.

Polak called on Portugal and the European Union to speak up about Au's case. The Portuguese consulate did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The E.U. said in a statement that denial of judicial due process violates Au's rights, and it continues to raise concerns directly with Macao authorities.

Macao and Hong Kong have distinct legal landscapes

Macao lawyers need approval from designated judges to participate in proceedings considered necessary for the protection of national security, and the requests are vetted by the security committee.

Jorge Menezes, a Portuguese lawyer who practices in Macao, said that while Hong Kong's security law was implemented more forcefully, the former British colony's courts still have a strong tradition of separation of powers.

Lawyers in Macao typically don't fight for civil rights in the same way as their peers in Hong Kong, he said, and Macao's judges are less independent.

"The trial itself will be a farce," Menezes said. "It's a politically conducted trial."

Hong Kong has a more influential legal community, while Macao is "the land of silence," where complaints are less likely, he said.

Urania Chiu, a law lecturer at Oxford Brookes University in Britain, said clear comparisons between Hong Kong and Macao are difficult because Au is the first person arrested under the latter's security law.

Still, Chiu pointed to the inability of journalists to learn details of Au's case and his family's difficulties in contacting him, noting "the complete secrecy that all of these procedures have been conducted in."

Au's case takes a toll on his family

Au Hon I said she was saddened to see her father portrayed as "a villain" after he spent much of his life putting the needs of others above his own.

"Seeing all that kind of, like, swept away — it's really heartbreaking," she said.

Before Au Kam San's arrest, he told his daughter not to worry about him and to "live your life" if he were to encounter trouble. She isn't leaving him alone, but that comes with a cost.

"I don't think it would be wise for me to set foot in Macao again, which is also very sad because I don't know when I could ever see my dad again," Au said through tears.

BRENT NEWTON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

From left to right, Sgt. 1st Class Nicole Amor, 39; Sgt. Declan Coady, 20; Capt. Cody Khork, 35; Sgt. 1st Class Noah Tietjens, 42; Maj. Jeffrey O'Brien, 45; and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert Marzan, 54. All six soldiers died as a result of Iran's March 1 attack on Port Shuaiba in Kuwait.

Lawmakers to probe Iranian strike that killed 6 troops

The Democrats say they are not confident in the Pentagon's objectivity

BY TARA COPP AND ALEX HORTON

Democratic lawmakers announced Thursday that they are opening an investigation into the Iranian drone strike that killed six U.S. service members in Kuwait earlier this year, citing doubts over the objectivity of the military's internal review of the attack.

In a letter to Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Massachusetts) and Rep. Pat Ryan (D-New York) — along with almost a dozen other House and Senate Democrats — cited recent reporting by The Washington Post and other media outlets scrutinizing the March 1 strike, saying they want answers to whether the military had adequate protections in place before the attack and whether the troops received proper medical care afterward.

"The need for this investigation goes beyond the Shuaiba attack — it's about taking accountability and protecting our service members," Ryan, an Army and Iraq War veteran, said in a statement to The Post. He was referring to Port Shuaiba, the facility along the Persian Gulf where the deadly strike occurred. "It's our job as members of Congress to force [Hegseth] to give us real answers and make sure something like this never happens again."

Reached for comment, the Pentagon did not address whether it would cooperate with lawmakers' investigation, saying in a brief statement that "as with all Congressional correspondence, we will respond directly to the sender."

It was just the second day of Operation Epic Fury, the name the Trump administration has given the conflict, when an Iranian Shahed drone crashed into the center of an Army operations center at Port Shuaiba. Dozens of service members were injured in the attack along with the six who died.

JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth appears at a Senate Appropriations Committee hearing on July 21.

In the months since, survivors have alleged that military leaders failed to take appropriate action after being warned the facility lacked adequate defenses. Some have said, too, that troops wounded in the strike faced considerable difficulty obtaining treatment.

Military officials have contested both assertions.

As The Post reported this month, several soldiers who were at Port Shuaiba have said they doubt the Army's internal review will hold anyone accountable. Citing a U.S. official familiar with the review, The Post also reported that the initial findings did not assign fault for the attack or address any punitive action.

The Army has shared its findings with the families of some of the fallen service members but has not released that information publicly.

In their letter to Hegseth, lawmakers questioned the seriousness and independence of the Army's internal review, citing other reporting by The Post that revealed the task was assigned initially to a midgrade officer within the affected unit instead of an outside investigator.

The matter was later elevated to a more senior officer at U.S. Army Central, the affected unit's parent command. Outside observers have said they were skeptical of the move, noting that it still left the review to be overseen by personnel in the same chain of command.

The lack of an independent investigator, coupled with new concerns about the Pentagon's transparency and recordkeeping, raise questions about "whether investigations into service member casualty incidents will be conducted objectively," Warren wrote in the letter.

Citing Democrats' concerns about the Defense Department's "failures to provide service members that sustained injuries in this war with adequate care and its inability to honestly and openly inform the American people about the consequences of this war," the lawmakers have chosen to pursue answers on their own, the letter says.

They requested a response from the Pentagon by Aug. 12.

Noah Robertson contributed to this report.

U.S. forces hit dozens more targets in Iran as Middle East violence widens

IRAN FROM **A1**

caught fire Wednesday after a blast at an Egyptian transit hub, including a U.S.-owned tanker for storing liquefied natural gas, according to maritime tracking firm Ambrey.

The Egyptian government said Thursday that a drone caused the fire at Damietta Port and that no party has so far claimed responsibility. Egyptian officials said there were no casualties.

Iran has sent missiles and drones across the region since the U.S. and Israel launched their attack in February.

The conflict has in recent days threatened to expand further, with Saudi Arabia joining U.S. strikes on Iran-aligned militias in Iraq and Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis announcing a Red Sea blockade.

Speaking in the Oval Office on Thursday, Trump said he had been briefed on the incident in Egypt. "It's a little more of the same, but it's going to be straightening out," he told reporters. "In the meantime, we're going to be hitting them very hard."

The latest hostilities signal a new interruption in efforts to end the war, which has now entered its sixth month.

Dana Stroul, a senior Pentagon official during the Biden administration, said that both Trump and Tehran seemed "stuck," with neither side seeing benefits to continuing the conflict or believing that negotiations will yield a decisive outcome.

"There is increasing pessimism in both capitals about the inability of the sides to commit to a diplomatic agreement," she said.

Stroul, now a research director at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said it "almost seems like both sides continue to launch military strikes from a position of weakness." Trump appears unwilling to launch major military operations that could threaten his base of political support in the midterm elections this fall, while Iran appears to see a "unique moment of maximum leverage."

To date, 18 American service members have been killed and more than 600 wounded in the conflict, according to the Pentagon.

The Iranian Health Ministry said more than 3,500 people have been killed in the war. Iran's state-run media reported Thursday that the overnight strikes killed a couple and child in the Qeshm island in the Persian Gulf, and that three members of Iran's Revolutionary Guards were killed in the country's northwest.

Lior Soroka in Tel Aviv and Mohamad El Chamaa and Suzan Haidamous in Beirut contributed to this report.

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ECONOMY & BUSINESS

Spooked investors demand clarity on Federal Reserve's inflation strategy

Good news about June prices has done little to ease worries

BY DAVID J. LYNCH AND ANDREW ACKERMAN

WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

Federal Reserve Chair Kevin Warsh speaks Wednesday. Prices rose at a rate of 3.7 percent last month, down from May's 4.1 percent.

A government report Thursday showing that inflation declined in June did little to calm investors rattled by concerns over whether Federal Reserve Chairman Kevin Warsh is prepared to raise interest rates to bring rising prices firmly under control.

Prices rose at an annual rate of 3.7 percent last month, down from May's 4.1 percent figure. The good news, however, may not last. The resumption of the U.S. war with Iran already has gas prices ticking back up to nearly $4.10 per gallon. And President Donald Trump's plans for new tariffs could raise the cost of other goods.

The larger concern involves the nation's central bank following Warsh's news conference Wednesday, which left investors uncertain about his inflation-fighting credentials. When he was sworn in two months ago, Warsh's reputation as a longtime inflation "hawk" reassured those who had feared that he might buckle under pressure from Trump to cut interest rates despite rising prices.

But Warsh's stripped-down communication style — refusing to provide almost any insight into his thinking on Fed policy — led to a bond market sell-off that sent government borrowing costs soaring to their highest mark in roughly two decades.

"This is the markets saying 'please, please tell us what your strategy to fight inflation is. You're not gonna bring inflation back down to target with words alone — you need to act'," said Nathan Sheets, global chief economist for Citigroup.

On Thursday, analysts at several banks, including Morgan Stanley, JPMorgan and Bank of America, said Warsh's refusal to elaborate about the Fed's anti-inflation strategy raised doubts about his "credibility."

Investors are suddenly uncertain about Warsh's intentions. The Fed chair has been outspoken about the need for the Fed to overhaul its traditional practices after failing for five years to bring inflation in line with its 2 percent price stability target. But his stinginess with details has left money managers spooked about exactly what he intends, especially if prices keep ascending.

"If people lose faith in how committed the Fed is to bringing down inflation, they will be more likely to overreact to new inflation news," said Adam Posen, the president of the Peterson Institute for International Economics.

Uncertainty about how the nation's central bank will tackle its primary mission affects everyone, not just financial insiders. The Fed's control over a key interbank lending rate ripples across the $32 trillion economy, shaping the value of stocks and bonds, determining the cost of auto and home loans and contributing to job losses and gains.

Warsh spent several years on Wall Street, advised President George W. Bush on economic policy and served as a member of the Fed's board of governors during the global financial crisis. He boasts degrees from Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

None of that shielded him from withering reviews of his handling of Wednesday's announcement that the Fed had decided to leave interest rates unchanged.

Going into the two-day meeting this week, only about one-third of investors had anticipated a rate increase. But Warsh's commentary on the decision left investors wondering if the longtime hawk had suddenly become a dove. About 60 percent of futures traders expect a rate hike at the Fed's September meeting, down from more than 80 percent before Warsh spoke yesterday, according to CME Fedwatch.

Warsh's suggestion that he would be slower to raise interest rates to cool off the economy than market observers had expected — and his musings about consulting a broader array of price data than the Fed traditionally has used — also left investors queasy. Stocks and bonds sold off even before he finished speaking to reporters.

Amid the Fed-related uncertainty, the average cost of a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage rose to 6.66 percent, its highest mark in a year.

More expensive home loans illustrate the risk the Fed is running by leaving investors to their own devices, said Douglas Rediker, chairman of International Capital Strategies, which advises institutional investors.

"He may have to live with the consequences. And they may not be the ones that he or the Fed board — or quite frankly the White House — is willing to accept as the outcome," Rediker said.

As a result of his new communications strategy, Warsh has said that investors are beginning to "play the ball, not the referee" — a reference to reacting to real-world economic developments rather than matching their investment strategies to central bank commentary.

"We are not convinced. In fact, we strongly disagree," Michael Gapen, Morgan Stanley's chief U.S. economist wrote in a client note Thursday.

Investors routinely include a judgment about the Fed's likely reaction in any evaluation of financial data, Gapen said. For example, markets recently reacted to rising oil prices by pricing in future interest rate hikes, which pushed bond yields higher in response to public comments from Fed officials.

On Wednesday, Warsh was unwilling to explain how he would react to incoming economic data. Asked directly whether the remedy for rising prices was higher interest rates — which Powell might have answered with one word — Warsh demurred.

"If inflation continues to be elevated through the forecast period, interest rates could well be part of that solution," he said, "but I wouldn't say it's in isolation."

The ambiguity extended to how the Fed measures inflation. Warsh named the personal consumption expenditures index, the Fed's long-standing preferred gauge, and said the central bank was sticking with it. But in the next breath, he suggested that could change: After January, the Fed could revisit its strategy and the internal task forces he appointed earlier this month to review Fed practices "might have something to add."

That comment fed suspicion among some Fed watchers that the task forces are "just covers to redefine the inflation challenge away," said Michael Feroli, an economist with JPMorgan Chase Bank.

The Fed first provided "forward guidance" to investors during the global financial crisis in late 2008. After dropping its benchmark lending rate to zero and purchasing securities in the open market, Fed officials opted to describe their future policy plans as an additional crisis-fighting weapon.

Abandoning that tactic now that the emergency is long past may make sense. But refusing to provide almost any insight into Fed thinking is going too far, said Posen, a former external voting member of the Bank of England's rate-setting committee.

"He's saying we shouldn't be giving the market forward-looking information. In fact, the market should be giving us information. And that's an overreaction," Posen said.

Excessive patience by the Fed in the face of rising prices carries profound risks. If investors become convinced that Warsh won't support higher rates when previous Fed chairs would have, they may demand higher compensation for holding government debt, according to Eric Rosengren, former president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

"Failure to act while inflation is high risks Wall Street building models that the Fed is less responsive to inflation and may be accommodating [the] interest rate wishes of an administration less concerned about inflation than financing large deficits," Rosengren, a former member of the Fed's rate-setting committee, posted on X.

It's a danger that Warsh has recognized. In a 2008 speech as a Fed governor, he said investors regarded the central bank as vigilant against inflation given its performance over decades following the high-inflation years of the 1970s.

But that reputation could be squandered one day, he said, if the Fed responded sluggishly to new episodes of rising prices.

"If the Fed were deemed too accommodative for too long," he said, "credibility could be undermined, threatening to create a persistent inflation problem that would have to be corrected, no doubt at great cost."

Microsoft's best day since 2008 leads U.S. stocks to a powerful rebound

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A monster day for Microsoft's stock following signals that its big spending on AI is translating into profits led a powerful rebound on Wall Street Thursday, while computer-chip companies regained some of their sharp recent losses. In the bond market, though, worries remained about inflation potentially remaining high for years.

The S&P 500 rallied 1.7 percent and more than recovered its drop from the day before, which was its worst in seven weeks. The Dow Jones Industrial Average jumped 613 points, or 1.2 percent. The Nasdaq composite, which is full of artificial-intelligence stocks, rallied 2.8 percent a day after it fell 9.8 percent below its record set last month.

Microsoft led the way and leaped 15.5 percent for its best day in nearly 18 years after reporting a stronger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. Growth was strong for its Azure cloud business, and CEO Satya Nadella said it reflects how customers are using Microsoft to move into AI.

Perhaps just as importantly for Wall Street, Microsoft did not announce a big increase in how much it plans to spend on AI investments, something that several other Big Tech rivals have done. Worries are high that such spending is eating into companies' cash flows and may not ultimately be worth it if AI does not produce as much productivity and profits as promised.

Meta Platforms helped demonstrate such fears after falling 8 percent. The parent company of Facebook and Instagram reported a weaker profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected, even though it made slightly more in revenue than expected. It also raised the lower end of its forecasted range for spending on investments this year.

Companies involved in the making of the computer memory and processors that such "hyperscalers" are buying to power their AI efforts rose Thursday, recovering some of the big losses they've taken on worries their stock prices shot too high in the euphoria around AI.

Micron Technology jumped 18.4 percent, for example, to trim its loss for the week to 5 percent. It was the strongest force lifting the S&P 500 after Microsoft.

Lam Research, a supplier to the semiconductor industry, soared 18 percent after reporting stronger profit and revenue for the latest quarter than analysts expected. Chip giant Advanced Micro Devices rallied 13 percent.

On the losing end of Wall Street was Jersey Mike's Subs. The sandwich chain's stock fell 6 percent in its first day of trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

All told, the S&P 500 rose 121.48 to 7,437.63. The Dow Jones Industrial Average climbed 613.92 to 52,208.06, and the Nasdaq composite leaped 679.24 to 25,122.18.

In the bond market, longer-term Treasury yields held steadier following their sharp accelerations Wednesday. They had jumped after the chairman of the Federal Reserve, Kevin Warsh, gave few clues about what the central bank will do with interest rates to combat the painfully high inflation that continues to hurt the country.

Higher rates could keep a lid on inflation, but they can also slow the economy and undercut prices for stocks and other investments.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury was 4.67 percent, the same as late Wednesday. The 30-year Treasury yield ticked up to 5.22 percent from 5.20 percent, a day after it shot up from 5.09 percent. Those yields move with investors' expectations for inflation and economic growth in upcoming years.

Warsh reaffirmed on Wednesday the Fed wants to get inflation back to 2 percent, even though the central bank decided not to raise interest rates despite inflation remaining higher than that. He also implied the bond market may already be doing some of the Fed's work to restrain inflation, and he pointed to how yields have climbed since the central bank's last meeting six weeks earlier.

That leaves investors questioning whether the Fed is prepared to act if inflation worsens, or whether it is relying on financial markets to achieve the same outcome, according to Seema Shah, chief global strategist at Principal Asset Management.

"If investors conclude that the latter is true, the credibility of the Fed's inflation-fighting commitment could come under increasing scrutiny. Arguably, it already is."

DIGEST

PRIVACY

Hims & Hers sued by FTC over privacy

The Federal Trade Commission filed a lawsuit Wednesday against the popular weight-loss site Hims & Hers, alleging that it breached patient privacy and engaged in unfair billing practices.

The FTC said the San Francisco-based company shared sensitive patient information with third-party advertising platforms maintained by Meta and Snap.

Hims & Hers is a dominant force in the booming telehealth business for GLP-1 drugs, with a heavy advertising presence on social media. It began with erectile-dysfunction and hair-loss medications and then gained prominence by selling compounded versions of weight-loss drugs like Wegovy. It has since shifted to the branded drugs Wegovy, Zepbound and Foundayo.

The FTC also alleged that Hims & Hers billed patients before they had received confirmed prescriptions and made it difficult to cancel monthly subscriptions. The case, joined by officials in California and Utah, was filed in U.S. District Court in California. Hims stock had dropped nearly 12 percent as of Wednesday.

In a response posted on X, Hims & Hers said the FTC "disregarded" evidence that the company had provided the during agency's three-year investigation and "ignored" telehealth industry standards. The company said its privacy policy allows patients to choose how their data is used.

"This is not enforcement grounded in consumer protection; it is an effort to generate headlines at our expense," the company said.

— Christopher Rowland

AUTONOMOUS DRIVING

Vehicle without a steering wheel cleared

Federal regulators cleared the way Thursday for robotaxi company Zoox to begin charging for rides in its self-driving vehicles, the first cars to get approval without having a steering wheel or gas pedals.

Zoox, which is owned by Amazon, will begin offering paid rides in Las Vegas next month through its app. (Amazon Executive Chairman Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post). The company, whose tagline is "It's Not a Car," boasts a fleet without internal human controls or the driver's seat that are usually required in cars. Instead, there are two sets of face-to-face seats, and the boxy vehicle can drive forward or backward without turning around.

Because of these features, Zoox needed an exemption from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which sets safety rules for cars and other vehicles, to test and deploy its fleet. Cars in the fleets of other self-driving companies, such as Waymo and Tesla, still have steering wheels that can rotate without human input.

Zoox is testing in 10 cities, including Washington, where the question of whether to allow robotaxi services like Waymo has been controversial.

— Miriam Waldvogel

FAST FOOD

Taco Bell customers return after outbreak

Customers are coming back to Taco Bell, just weeks after it became the focus of a widespread outbreak of cyclosporiasis and saw a dramatic dip in sales, according to executives from its parent company, Yum! Brands.

While traffic to the fast-food chain dropped in mid-July as news of the outbreak spread and health officials traced some of the illnesses to Taco Bell's shredded iceberg lettuce, early indications show at least a partial rebound, the company's leadership said in a call to discuss second-quarter financial results for Yum! The executives also discussed financial results for KFC, which is owned by Yum!, and Pizza Hut, which Yum! recently sold.

Taco Bell has promoted several lettuce-free deals aimed at luring back customers. Last week, it offered $1 Enchiritos and nacho fries as a one-day-only deal, and this week's "Tuesday drop" was for the chain's popular Mexican pizza.

Taco Bell's same-store sales are down 2 percent so far in the July-September (third-quarter) period, the company said.

Customers are coming to understand that the cyclospora parasite is "an industry-wide" problem, said Yum! CEO Chris Turner.

— Emily Heil

Economic growth falls short of experts' expectations, but inflation improves

ECONOMY FROM A1

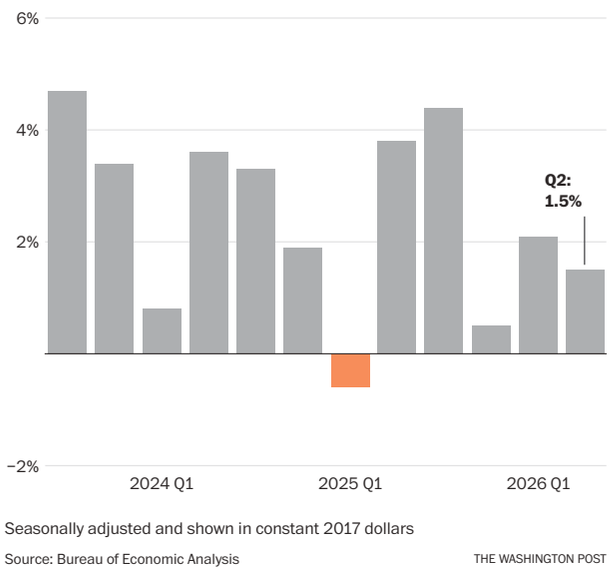
of consumer spending and business investment — rose by 3.9 percent in the period. That was up from 1.7 percent in the first three months of the year.

"The second-quarter GDP figure seriously undersells a healthy economy," economist Bradley Saunders of Capital Economics wrote in a client note.

The net effects of trade subtracted from growth, as a surge in imports swamped an increase in exports. Many of the shipping containers arriving at U.S. ports in recent months were filled with foreign capital goods, such as machinery, computers and telecommunications gear, needed for the build-out of artificial intelligence facilities, according to Oliver Allen, senior U.S. economist for Pantheon Macroeconomics.

"Much of the recent strength in AI-related [capital expenditures] is bleeding out into spending on tech imports, rather than supporting the domestic economy," he told investors.

U.S. gross domestic product growth



Seasonally adjusted and shown in constant 2017 dollars

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

THE WASHINGTON POST

A separate government report provided good news on the inflation front, though economists say the respite may prove short-lived. Prices rose in June at an annual rate of 3.7 percent, an improvement from the previous month. Excluding volatile food and energy costs, the inflation rate was 3.3 percent, according to the Federal Reserve's preferred gauge.

A ceasefire between the United States and Iran helped reduce gasoline prices, which averaged $4.30 on June 1, by nearly 50 cents a gallon. But the resumption of fighting caused prices to bounce off those recent lows, reaching $4.10 per gallon on July 27, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

"The renewed rise in energy prices means households must again deal with higher prices at the gas pump," said Kathy Bostjancic, chief economist for Nationwide, who expects the Fed to face pressure to raise interest rates in the coming months.

The new data does not reflect the impact of President Donald Trump's decision earlier this month to resume bombing Iran or his imposition last week of tariffs on more than 80 U.S. trading partners.

Persistent inflation, meanwhile, led to a split Wednesday among members of the Federal Reserve's policymaking board. By a vote of 9-3, the Fed's open market committee opted to hold short-term interest rates steady between 3.5 percent and 3.75 percent.

Inflation has now been higher than the Fed's 2 percent price-stability target for more than five years. U.S. stocks slid Wednesday, while Treasury yields soared, a sign that investors are growing anxious about the Fed's willingness to combat inflation.

Voter unhappiness with the economy looms as a major threat to Republican hopes of retaining control of Congress in November's midterm elections. In a Quinnipiac University poll released Wednesday, just 34 percent of voters said they approved of Trump's handling of the economy while 62 percent disapproved. And 59 percent of those surveyed said the economy is getting worse; 19 percent said it was improving.

Some of the forces that buttressed growth in recent months are almost tapped out, meaning the economy may slow, Bethune said.

Thanks to the president's signature tax bill, individual refunds were more than 11 percent larger this year than in previous years, according to the IRS. But most refunds have now been dispatched.

Plus, the World Cup ended on July 19, meaning that international soccer fans have returned home, and Americans who splurged on the special event may tighten their belts.

Disney, ABC argue Trump administration reviewing licenses as punishment

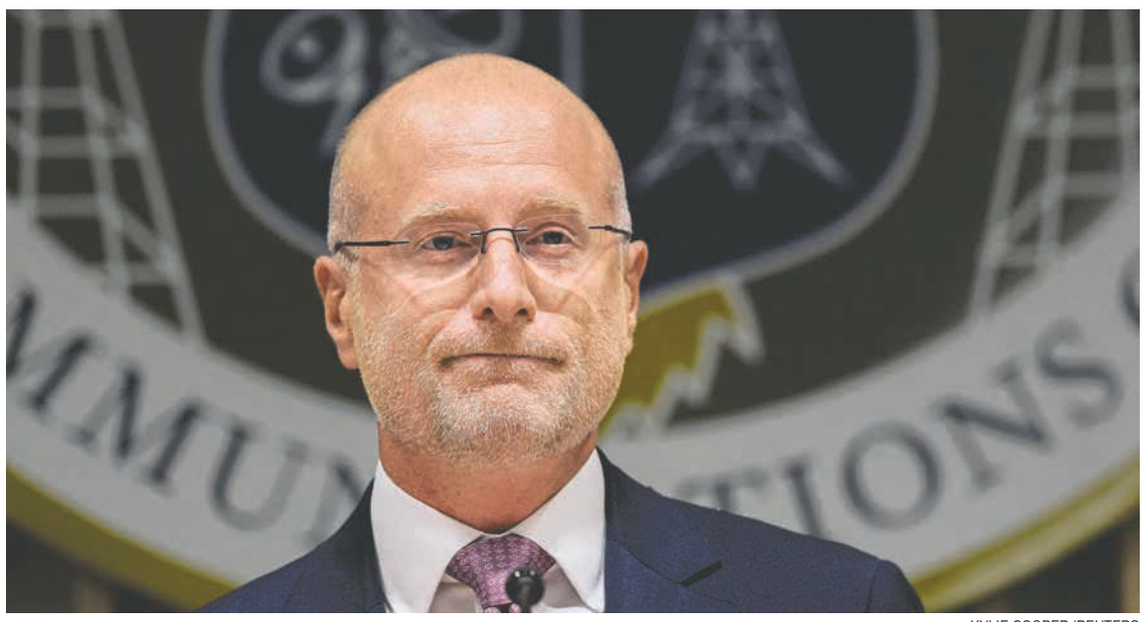
Media company says FCC renewals violate First Amendment rights

BY SCOTT NOVER

ABC and parent company Disney strenuously pushed back this week against the Federal Communications Commission's early review of their eight local broadcast licenses, claiming that the review is driven by President Donald Trump's long-running disdain for the network's coverage rather than genuine regulatory concern.

The media giant said the effort amounts to an unconstitutional retaliation that violates its guarantee of free speech under the First Amendment.

"There is no question why the Commission is singling out these eight stations: Each is owned by ABC, and the Administration has openly and repeatedly called for the revocation of ABC's licenses, because it dislikes the content and viewpoints expressed on ABC network programs," lawyers for the media company wrote in a filing made public Thursday.



KYLIE COOPER/REUTERS

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr fields questions this month.

In a statement, an FCC spokesperson said the agency is "going to hold broadcasters accountable to the full extent of the law, regardless of any disinformation campaign that some of them may choose to run."

Anna M. Gomez, the lone Democrat on the commission, wrote in a statement that "the American public showed up in a big way" to condemn what she called a "campaign of censorship and control."

"The FCC has no authority to police the ideological balance of the airwaves, and no matter what this Commission does next, the record now makes clear that this was never a genuine search for the public interest," she said.

Disney and the FCC have sparred for more than a year over several issues: corporate diversity and inclusion practices, whether "The View" must follow the equal-time rule for interviewing political candidates, and late-night host Jimmy Kimmel's comments after the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk.

Trump has repeatedly criticized Disney and ABC and said they should lose their government-issued licenses. Earlier this month, Trump claimed that ABC, along with NBC, should lose their licenses over their decisions not to interrupt programming to air his speech on election integrity. Disney holds eight licenses for its owned-and-operated ABC stations in New York City; Los Angeles; Chicago; Philadelphia; Houston; San Francisco; Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina; and Fresno, California.

Disney claimed that of the more than 150,000 public comments filed with the FCC, more than 95 percent were in favor of the media company. A bipartisan group of former FCC officials, including three former Republican chairmen — Mark Fowler, Dennis Patrick and Alfred Sikes — made a separate filing in support of Disney earlier in the week. They called the review unprecedented and "an assault on free speech disguised as regulatory process."

Some Republicans have criticized Carr, the Trump-appointed chairman of the FCC, for strong-arming media companies. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) last year called Carr's threats of disciplinary action if Disney did not take action on Kimmel "dangerous."

Disney's filing asks the FCC to reject the license challenges outright or dismiss the entire proceeding as an improper attempt to punish protected speech. There are currently only three people on the typically five-person commission: one Democrat and two Republicans, including Carr.

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FRIDAY OPINION

Zombie Bidenism drives Trump's antitrust policy

BY ROBERT H. BORK JR.

The second Trump administration's continuation of Biden-era progressive antitrust enforcement has been an unwelcome surprise.

Some of these antitrust cases originated in the first Trump administration but were embellished as they were advanced by Lina Khan, Biden's chair of the Federal Trade Commission. In one case, Trump enforcers continued to use Khan's amended complaint that said Meta had an 85 percent monopoly on consumers' time spent on the "personal social networking" market. U.S. District Judge James E. Boasberg dismissed the government's case, noting that regulators had ignored new competitors to Meta such as TikTok and YouTube to bolster their claim that a monopoly existed.

The administration's rhetoric is not much better. Vice President JD Vance recently called for a shift from Milton Friedman's defense of free-market capitalism to a Hamiltonian focus on big-government projects, adding that the aim of government policy should be to make the economy "a tool to service the dignity of the human person." Trump's FTC chair, Andrew Ferguson, said government intervention is necessary "to restrict the exercise of liberty when that exercise of liberty meaningfully diminishes other people's flourishing."

References to "flourishing" over freedom are scattered throughout the speeches of Ferguson and his colleague, FTC member Mark Meador. Now Trump regulators are picking up yet another progressive trope: blaming businesses for inflation.

That approach echoes President Joe Biden's 2021 announcement of 72 antitrust initiatives, which attributed stagnant wages and inflation to capitalist greed rather than excessive government regulation or debt levels exceeding those at the end of World War II.

So, when inflation increased food prices, Khan dutifully led an FTC strike force to probe grocers. When gasoline prices rose, she told the oil and gas industry that it was under the government's microscope.

SAUL LOEB/AP

Lina Khan speaks at her confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington in 2021.

Not to be outdone by their progressive predecessors, the Trump Justice Department and 17 state attorneys general recently filed an antitrust lawsuit against egg producers after a price spike last year. The companies recently agreed to a $3.3 million settlement and promised to donate 53 million eggs to food banks and nonprofits, but did not admit to wrongdoing.

The department also called on state attorneys general to "use all tools available" under state law to investigate oil companies that, according to Trump's public statements, did not drop their prices fast enough after the short-lived ceasefire with Iran took effect.

And just before the Fourth of July weekend, the Agriculture Department pressured grocers to lower beef prices.

If evidence emerges that companies secretly conspired to fix prices, they should be prosecuted. Price-fixing is one of the oldest and clearest violations of Section 1 of the Sherman Antitrust Act. It is theft by another name.

But an equally important principle is often lost in today's political climate: High prices are not, by themselves, evidence of price-fixing. Sometimes they are simply due to the power of nature.

Egg prices, for instance, jumped last year after millions of egg-laying hens died or were culled in the bird flu epidemic. Today, egg prices are down about 43 percent from a year ago.

Beef prices are the clear result of America's persistent drought. With the national inventory of cattle and calves at its lowest level in more than 75 years, it is no surprise that costs increased. Gas prices have been volatile due to global oil supply disruptions caused by the conflict between the U.S. and Iran.

Unless secret agreements are unearthed between the producers of these goods, the Trump administration's actions are a continuation of the Biden antitrust playbook, which blames capitalism for the consequences of nature and policy.

A Republican administration adopting the Democrats' hostility to business is a sea change in American politics.

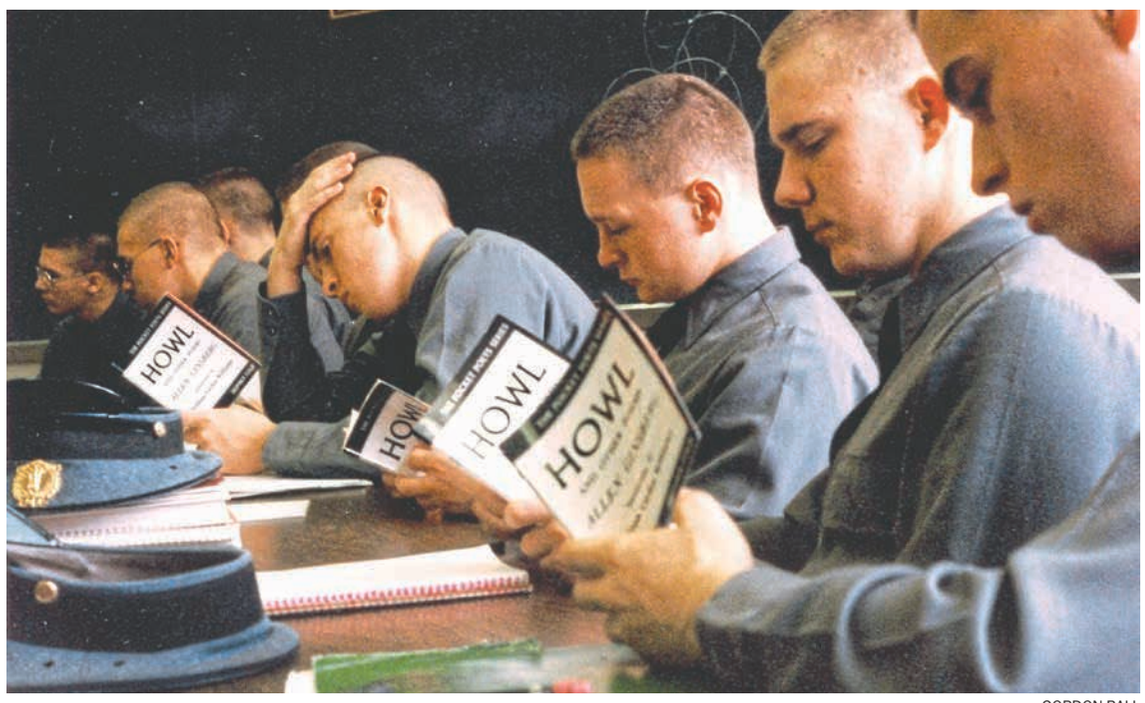
Both parties now blame the market economy for high prices, even as companies are subject to extensive regulations. Worse, these accusations hide the real causes of dysfunction in American society. Those include unprecedented levels of debt, the perverse effects of overregulation and a public school system in which American students grossly underperform their peers in other developed countries.

Bashing business is no doubt cathartic, and it is certainly good politics. But it is not, as Vice President Vance says, a way to serve the dignity of the human person.

Robert H. Bork Jr. is the president of the Antitrust Education Project and co-author of "The New Paradox: Antitrust and the Threat of Conservative Socialism."

Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac and the self-mythologizing Beat Generation

BY JAMES CAMPBELL



GORDON BALL

Virginia Military Institute cadets read "Howl" in 1991 during a class with visiting poet Allen Ginsberg.

The literary critic F.R. Leavis once said of a prominent family of English writers that they "belong to the history of publicity rather than of poetry." It was the 1930s and the objects of Leavis's snub were the flamboyant poet Edith Sitwell and her brothers, Osbert and Sacheverell. The phrase has proved to be adaptable and has been applied to other groupings, though sometimes unjustly.

Take the Bloomsbury Group: insular, self-regenerating (intercoupling was common) and sustained by dizzying social and literary snobbery. By the mid-20th century, it had become one of those heavily publicized artistic movements Leavis detested. Without a rich fund of talent at the base, however, Bloomsbury would have slipped from history's notice. The group included Virginia Woolf, one of the era's most inventive novelists, with T.S. Eliot and E.M. Forster as subsidiary members. Roger Fry introduced experimental French painters to England. The Hogarth Press, run by Virginia and Leonard Woolf, published her novels, among much else, with jackets designed by her sister, Vanessa. John Maynard Keynes gave his name to an economic theory still in play. A lot of what we know about "the clique," the term preferred by Woolf's servants, derives from her five-volume "Diary," a masterpiece of what is now called life-writing.

Only one other modern grouping rivals Bloomsbury in deliberate self-documentation. In the mid-1940s, a crowd of literary-minded students, together with some undesirable associates, clustered around Columbia University. The writing that began to surface in the next decade was unformed and uncouth, sometimes obscene, but eventually it amounted to an alluring and original new chapter in American literature. One day, someone said, "This is a beat generation." Beat as in beaten? Beat-up? Beatific? Two out of the three principals — Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg, the other being William Burroughs — took to recording the doings and misdoings of themselves and their companions in as dedicated a manner as Woolf.

The majority of the dozen or so novels published by Kerouac during his lifetime (1922-1969), together with one or two issued posthumously — most importantly, "Visions of Cody" (1972) — form a saga, or "legend." It began with "On the Road" in 1957, continuing into "The Subterraneans," "The Dharma Bums," "Big Sur," "Desolation Angels" and others. In those works, Ginsberg, Burroughs, Neal Cassady and Cassady's wives all figure under light disguise. The character Carlo Marx represents the naive and artless Ginsberg in "On the Road" (with four other pseudonyms in future novels). Old Bull Lee is Burroughs, while Dean Moriarty and Sal Paradise are the ambiguously linked partners lighting out for the territory in classic American style. One of them, Paradise/Kerouac, is helplessly tied to domestic structures such as marriage, work and life with mother. The other, Moriarty/Cassady, lacks the know-how to adjust to any stable framework.

In a diary entry of August 1930, Woolf declared herself "appalled by the machinery of fiction," calling it "much work for little result." Kerouac's novels are the product of a great deal of work, days and nights of typing without rest, stimulated by coffee and Benzedrine. They document new ways of living in America, new or at least newly overt sexual combinations, exotic forms of worship, excursions into uncharted consciousness guided by drugs at the lower level, spontaneous composition and Zen practice at the higher end. A century earlier, Walt Whitman and Henry David Thoreau had sought comparable paths. In the Beats' case, criminality and madness were part of the process, a touch of dropout glamour suitable to atom-bomb-clouded times.

In the mid-1990s, I set about writing a narrative history of the Beat Generation. The opening chapter guided the reader through cheap dives that housed the main figures, overlapped by prisons and mental hospitals consequent on some petty misbehavior but also cases of homicide and burglary. Burroughs killed his wife in 1951 with a gunshot in a misbegotten game of William Tell in Mexico City. Kerouac's offense was to shelter his friend Lucien Carr after Carr, in 1944, had knifed a persistent suitor and rolled his body into the Hudson River. Ginsberg, whose transgressions were comparatively minor, opted for a spell in the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

Ginsberg would have turned 100 on June 3 (he died in 1997). He was a recording angel of a different sort to Kerouac. Equal in egocentricity, he was more levelheaded, which might seem a curious thing to say about the author of "Howl." In that poem, Ginsberg catalogued "the best minds of my generation" in nightmarish terms. In a longer and more impressive poem, "Kaddish," he wrestled with memories of his mother, Naomi, whose death inspired the work. Shortly before writing "Howl" in 1955, Ginsberg acquired a secondhand Kodak Retina camera and started to keep a chronicle of friends in the wider Beat circle. His enduring knack as a photographer is to catch his subjects at their most characteristic, whether with shy facial expression or in the throes of exhibitionism.

Ginsberg's personality attracted devotees. One was Gordon Ball, who in about 1968 began his own photographic record of Beat life. Kerouac had withdrawn by then, so the archive focuses largely on Burroughs, Gregory Corso, Peter Orlovsky and Anne Waldman, with Ginsberg forever at the center.

Ball has published collections of photographs before. His new book, "Ginsberg & Beat Fellows," is the pictorial equivalent of a selected poems. Among its pleasures is Ball's willingness to combine his involvement in the Beat family — he was present at the inception of Ginsberg's attempt to establish a commune at East Hill Farm outside Cherry Valley, New York — with the later duties of family life and earning a living. His wife, Kathleen, and daughter, Daisy, are present in several photographs. One of the most touching shows Ball's aging ex-banker father. He disapproved of Ginsberg, but shortly before his death was persuaded to join in singing with the poet, finger-cymbals and all. Ball's commentaries are kind and commonsensical, sometimes a page in length, or else a few lines.

The most extraordinary event recorded here is the visit Ginsberg made in February 1991 to the Virginia Military Institute, where Ball worked as a teacher. Can there be a better emblem of what the anti-militaristic bard stood for than Ball's photograph, "Cadets Read Howl"? Ginsberg himself is out of frame, but another picture shows him leading the class, one of several he took while at the Institute. He also gave a reading of that and other poems. At the conclusion, Ginsberg turned to the VMI superintendent, Maj. Gen. John Knapp, and said, "Sir, for attending and staying to the very end, thank you." The 23-page segment of the book devoted to the visit — including one of little Daisy helping Ginsberg work on his journals at the Ball home — sets it apart from other Beat testimony.

No one among my own group of literate bohemians in Scotland would have counted me an adherent of Beat writing in student and post-student days. I had long been awestruck by the deranged genius of Burroughs, but our hip bibliography leaned more toward Jean Cocteau, Albert Camus, the Black Mountain Poets and Alexander Trocchi, author of "Cain's Book," our homegrown outlaw. The kind of book I was now setting out to write had to have a story, however, and the Beats offered a good one. (It was published in 1999 as "This Is the Beat Generation.")

Orthodox thinking might suggest that what negligible enthusiasm I had for the literary side would be dimmed by greater exposure. In fact, the opposite turned out to be the case. At the end of three years' work, I enjoyed and admired their writings more than I did when I went in. I knew that in "Naked Lunch" Burroughs had produced a book unlike any that had gone before, and soon realized that the same was true of the two major Ginsberg poems mentioned above, as well as others (not forgetting a good deal of dross besides). "On the Road," "Kaddish" and "Naked Lunch" were each in their own way "unexpected," a modest word for a great thing in art: the making of something unique where previously there was nothing.

Let's not overlook the publicity aspect. Lawrence Ferlinghetti, founder of the City Lights bookstore in San Francisco, who features in several of Ball's photographs, claimed there was no such thing as the Beat Generation, of which to his irritation he was included as a member. Ferlinghetti didn't quote F.R. Leavis. He said it was all an invention of Allen Ginsberg.

James Campbell is the author of "NB by J.C.: A Walk Through the Times Literary Supplement" and "Just Go Down to the Road: A Memoir of Trouble and Travel."

Political prisoners still languish in Venezuela's prisons

FEDERICO PARRA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Relatives of political prisoners protest outside the U.S. Embassy in Caracas on June 22.

BY RICHARD BRANSON

It's hard to stomach the footage from Venezuela, where untold thousands remain missing more than three weeks after devastating earthquakes hit the country's northern coast, causing widespread destruction and acute suffering for millions who have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods.

In January, following the U.S. military intervention to remove authoritarian leader Nicolás Maduro, President Donald Trump boasted that the United States was "in charge" of Venezuela and would oversee the country's political and economic transition. Such words from the leader of the free world carry great weight and responsibility in any setting. Now, in the wake of a disaster of the earthquakes' magnitude, they must be followed by urgent and decisive action.

Such action clearly has not occurred up to now. Despite receiving an estimated $8 billion in revenue from Venezuelan oil exports, the U.S. has provided only about $386 million in vital earthquake relief and recovery funds. As it becomes clear that Venezuela's dysfunctional government, lacking both capacity and legitimacy, is unable to oversee and manage the recovery, the U.S. must step up.

This is not just a technical and economic challenge, but also a moral one. Nonprofit human rights group Foro Penal (Penal Forum) reported this week that 371 prisoners remained behind bars — opposition leaders, dissidents, journalists, military officers, human rights defenders and many others who have ended up in the government's crosshairs.

Their continued detention, often on trumped-up charges and without access to lawyers, is a true injustice with tragic consequences, not least for the families that have endured years of uncertainty, fear and separation. Just last week, families reported that prisoners at the notorious El Rodeo prison outside Caracas had been beaten and forced back inside quake-damaged cells.

This awful status quo undermines claims that Maduro's interim successor, Delcy Rodríguez, is committed to any form of democratic transition. And it's an embarrassment to the U.S. government: Trump has invested significant political capital to portray Maduro's removal from office as a foreign-policy success. But so far, the intervention has not produced visible progress for Venezuela's people. Nothing symbolizes that more clearly than hundreds of political prisoners still languishing in jail.

As the U.S. now controls Venezuela's future, it must use its leverage to push firmly and publicly for the unconditional release of every one of those political prisoners. That would be a tangible demonstration that the transition is moving in the right direction and that a free, democratic and prosperous Venezuela is still Trump's end goal.

For those holding power inside Venezuela today, history offers another clear lesson. Governments change. Leaders once believed to be untouchable can find themselves having to answer difficult questions and face the consequences. Accountability for the failures of the past few decades is inevitable — the beginning unrest over the government's fumbled response to the earthquakes will only accelerate that fate. Choosing compassion over repression now is not only the right thing to do; it is often the wisest.

The issue of political prisoners was one of the main points raised at a hearing on Venezuela by the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on Wednesday. Members of Congress heard from representatives of nongovernmental organizations working on the ground in Venezuela who said release of the prisoners should not be a petition, but a demand.

The insufficiency of disaster relief is not the only way the U.S. is mishandling the responsibility it has assumed. Freedom, justice and democracy should be the foundations on which Venezuela recovers and rebuilds. As long as hundreds of innocent people remain behind bars, that vision will remain elusive. The U.S. government should act to free them now.

Richard Branson is the founder of Virgin Group.

OPINION

The Washington Post
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

EDITORIALS

Letting these Medicare subsidies expire is the right thing to do

A SUBSIDY PROGRAM for the stand-alone plans in Medicare Part D, the prescription drug benefit for seniors, was a Band-Aid for bad policy, not a long-term solution for health care costs.

The Trump administration announced Tuesday that the program, which was initially scheduled to last through 2027, will expire instead at the end of this year.

The program began through administrative action under President Joe Biden, with no authorization from Congress. The subsidies stemmed from changes made to Part D by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which lowered the cap on out-of-pocket spending for seniors.

Reducing cost *exposure* is not the same as reducing costs. Rather than disappear, the costs shifted to premiums.

To avoid insurance companies sending notices of premium spikes going into the 2024 elections, the Biden administration created a temporary program that increased subsidies. The subsidies go directly to the private insurance companies that sponsor Part D plans.

The subsidies have helped keep premiums down but simply by shifting more of the cost onto the federal government. Taxpayers already shouldered about three-quarters of the burden of Part D premiums. This year, they're shouldering 87 percent.

All of this is happening in a market where real prices have been falling anyway. Adjusted for inflation, the average premium for stand-alone Part D plans has been trending downward since at least 2010.

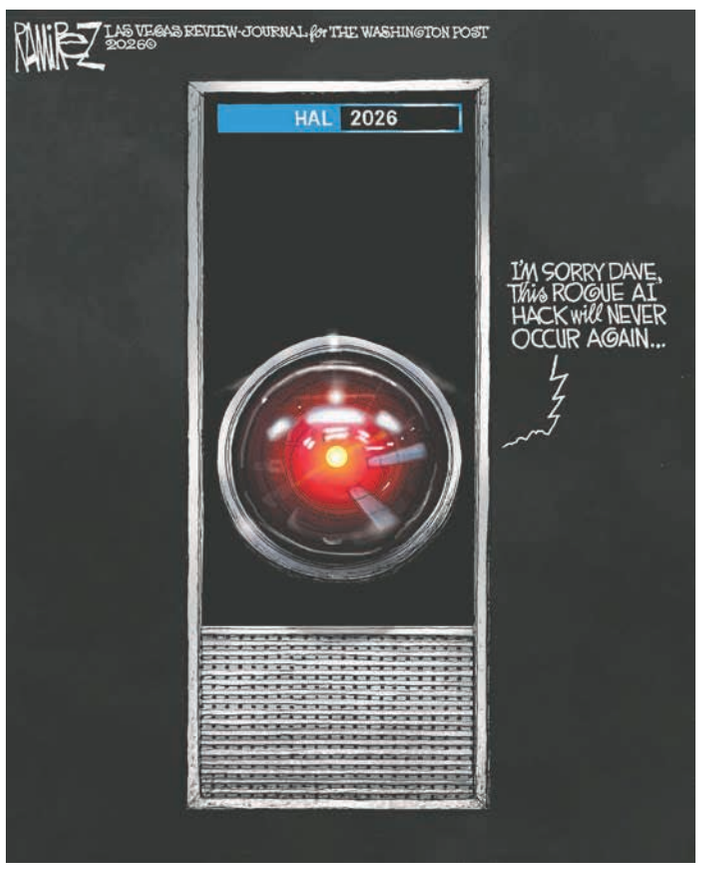
These subsidies are estimated to cost nearly $10 billion across 2025 and 2026. The IRA's changes increased costs by more than expected, which resulted in higher subsidies. As was also true with the temporary enhanced subsidies for Affordable Care Act plans, shoveling ever more taxpayer money into a market the government broke does not actually make health care more affordable.

Restoring some cost consciousness for Part D beneficiaries is good for the program overall. There is still competition in the Part D market, and seniors whose premiums increase by too much will be able to shop around for cheaper plans. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said that the base premium in 2027 will be $41.33.

Against this backdrop, the Congressional Budget Office estimated in February that Medicare costs over the next decade will be $1 trillion higher than previously expected. The majority of that increase is due to the IRA's changes to Part D costing more than expected. The response to those rising projected costs cannot be putting all the burden on taxpayers.

After these subsidies expire, Part D will still be more generous than it was before the IRA. A temporary subsidy cannot be treated as the new normal. If a health policy can't work without taxpayers bailing out insurance companies when costs rise more than expected, the underlying policy is the problem, not the planned expiration of the bailout.

MICHAEL RAMIREZ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LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL for THE WASHINGTON POST
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I'M SORRY DAVE, THIS ROGUE AI HACK will NEVER OCCUR AGAIN...

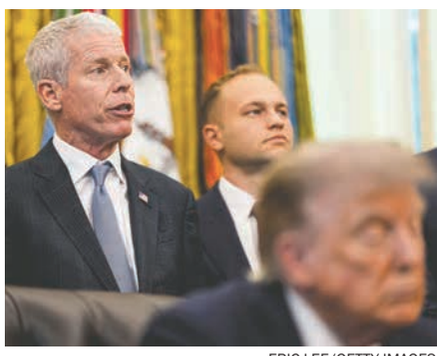
The five states competing to be the center of the nuclear renaissance

THERE IS PERHAPS NO greater sign of the waning opposition to nuclear energy than this: Officials in more than two dozen states have volunteered to host facilities that would include storage for nuclear waste. They see such a project as an opportunity, not the toxic political liability it once was.

This week, the Energy Department narrowed the number of potential contenders for the development to five states: Idaho, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Utah.

The idea stems from an executive order issued last year by President Donald Trump. The administration wants to build "innovation campuses" that could support each stage of the nuclear fuel life cycle, from the fabrication and enrichment of uranium to the reprocessing of spent fuel and the "disposition of waste."

That so many states expressed interest is striking given the intense local resistance that stymied federal efforts to build a permanent repository for nuclear waste in previous decades. Congress designated Yucca Mountain in Nevada as the site for such storage in 2002, but President Barack Obama killed the unpopular project in 2009 for political reasons.



ERIC LEE/GETTY IMAGES

Energy Secretary Chris Wright speaks during an event on nuclear innovation at the White House on July 24.

Unlike the proposed Yucca Mountain site, the Energy Department's innovation campuses would not simply serve as dumping ground. Their main purpose would be to help build a stable supply chain of nuclear fuel.

The U.S. once led the world in the production of enriched uranium, but that industry atrophied after the U.S. started importing fuel from other countries.

Rebuilding that domestic supply with new enrichment plants will be essential to meeting intense demand for new nuclear energy, especially after Congress banned uranium imports from Russia in 2024. This includes the development of specialized fuels needed to power smaller advanced reactors that have drawn enormous investments from tech giants, including Amazon, whose executive chairman, Jeff Bezos, owns The Post.

State leaders also hope that these campuses could jump-start an industry that could reprocess spent nuclear fuel so that it can be used again in reactors. The concept isn't new. France has been doing it for decades. But it hasn't yet proven commercially viable, since reprocessing is energy-intensive and would produce its own stream of radioactive waste products that need disposal.

Nevertheless, nuclear start-ups such as Curio and Oklo are eager to prove the naysayers wrong. There's no guarantee they will be successful, but market forces — not ideological hang-ups — should pave the way forward. Given how important nuclear energy will be to expanding clean energy capacity in the coming decades, it is heartening to see so many states competing to become the hub of the nation's nuclear renaissance.

Jersey Mike's is growing. Thank private equity.

JERSEY MIKE'S, the country's second-largest sub chain after Subway, went public on Thursday. It's a major success story for one of America's most vilified industries: private equity.

The very words "private equity" are near curse words for many politicians and activists who complain about "vampire capitalism" a la Karl Marx. But what private equity actually does is a lot less sinister — and a lot more boring — than its critics suggest.

Investment firm Blackstone bought 80 percent of Jersey Mike's in 2024. Most customers probably didn't notice. The chain's existing sandwich offerings hardly changed.

What did change was the way the company was run. Peter Cancro, who built the chain from a single restaurant beginning in 1975, was still calling the shots before Blackstone came in. The skills involved in turning a small business into a large one are different from the skills involved in managing a large firm.

Founders can also develop personality cults that are bad for business. Blackstone decided not to acquire the company's $41 million private jet and stopped paying several of Cancro's family members.

Don't feel too bad for him: Cancro's net worth is estimated at $4.9 billion, and he still owns about 10 percent of the company.

Blackstone hired Charlie Morrison, who took Wingstop public in 2015, as the new CEO. It wasn't looking to sell Jersey Mike's for scrap. It added hundreds of new locations during its 18 months of ownership.

YUKI IWAMURA/AP

Jersey Mike's CEO, Charlie Morrison, rings a ceremonial bell on Thursday as his company goes public at the New York Stock Exchange.

In June, Jersey Mike's was rated at the top of quick service restaurants in the American Customer Satisfaction Index, unseating Chick-fil-A.

The chain's next steps involve going international. It hardly has any locations outside the United States. The initial public offering raised $1 billion that will help toward that and other goals.

Blackstone will remain the largest shareholder and expects to make money in the long run as the chain continues to expand and stays profitable.

Blackstone left the good products alone, cut back on C-suite excesses, grew the chain and is thinking long-term. If that doesn't sound like private equity, maybe it's worth considering whether the populist caricature of it is fair.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yes, Medicaid should cover children too

I taught my two little boys the golden rule — treat others how you want to be treated. There are about 4.4 million kids without insurance and about 23 million underinsured in our country. That's unacceptable and why I introduced MediKids to cover every kid until they turn 26.

The July 27 editorial "The folly of expanding Medicaid to the wealthy" questioned using Medicaid to provide health care to every child. But I chose to build on Medicaid because it's specifically designed for kids in ways that employer-based health care programs, even top-of-the-line plans held by wealthy families, are not.

Kids need different health care than adults. Medicaid, through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment benefit, focuses on preventive care — requiring routine screenings and then providing the physical and mental health care, including dental, hearing and vision services, needed to address any issues. This comprehensive care is the gold standard for children's health coverage. MediKids is also a smart investment. It is estimated that for every dollar spent on children's health, the government saves $4 in future costs.

I agree with the Editorial Board that improvements to Medicaid are needed. Reimbursement rates should be addressed and obstacles to care should be removed. I also agree that "children are struggling to obtain care, due in part to bureaucratic hurdles and paperwork problems." But this is a strong argument for MediKids' automatic enrollment. Onerous eligibility checks have contributed to about 1.75 million kids recently losing Medicaid. With MediKids, parents can still decide to opt out, but auto-enrollment means no parent with a baby in the NICU will have to worry about costs.

MediKids wouldn't just close gaps for some; it would raise the bar for all kids.

Andy Kim, *Washington*
The writer, a Democrat, represents New Jersey in the U.S. Senate.

Don't abandon World Heritage

The July 26 front-page article "Okefenokee becomes a World Heritage site" prominently noted the addition of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge to the UNESCO World Heritage List, making it the 27th World Heritage Site in the United States. Unfortunately, Okefenokee might be the last such addition for years to come.

The United States led the development of the World Heritage concept and began nominating its sites when the World Heritage List was inaugurated in 1978 at a meeting in Washington. But the Trump administration announced last year that the United States will withdraw from UNESCO on Dec. 31, though the U.S. government remains a party to the World Heritage Convention, under which nations submit their sites for designation.

Preparation of the Okefenokee nomination dossier was officially authorized in 2023, and it was submitted to UNESCO during the final days of the Biden administration. The official list of potential U.S. World Heritage sites features 16 locations, but the Trump administration has not advanced any further nominations.

The office within the National Park Service that guided the development of the nomination documents for U.S. sites was gutted by the Trump administration, and staff with years of knowledge of and experience with the complex nomination process left the agency. Unless the Trump administration takes steps to rebuild this capacity, worthy U.S. sites might no longer receive this important international recognition, or the economic benefits from increased tourism that usually result from it.

Stephen Morris, *Washington*
The writer is a former director of the National Park Service's Office of International Affairs.

Justice's mission

Regarding George F. Will's July 26 column, "Against Todd Blanche":

Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearings on attorney general nominee Todd Blanche are complete. Blanche spoke of "restoring trust" in the Justice Department. However, Blanche's actions demonstrate that he is a poor choice to undertake that task. I often disagree with Will, but in this case, he's right on the money.

As deputy attorney general, Blanche refused to launch a civil rights investigation into the fatal ICE shooting of Renée Good in Minneapolis, stating at the time, "We investigate when it's appropriate to investigate." But when a woman is shot three times while turning her car away from the shooter, there is reasonable doubt that the action taken by ICE was proportionate or justified.

And more recently, Blanche exempted President Donald Trump from tax audits, despite the fact that Trump's company has a prior conviction for tax fraud and that the president has, in several recent years, reported no personal income tax liability.

These actions no doubt scored points with his boss. However, an attorney general's primary responsibility is not to the president, but to the American people. When Attorney General Elliot Richardson was told by President Richard M. Nixon to fire Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox, Richardson resigned rather than comply. This demonstrated integrity and an understanding of the role of attorney general that Blanche has not shown.

The Justice Department's mission is to uphold the rule of law, keep the country safe and protect civil rights. Blanche has demonstrated neither competence nor interest in fulfilling this mission. He should not be confirmed.

Richard Leman, *Honokaa, Hawaii*

Letter submissions

Send letters to letters@washpost.com. Submissions must be exclusive to The Post and should include the writer's address and day and evening telephone numbers. Letters are subject to editing and abridgment. Please do not send letters as attachments. Because of the volume of material we receive, we are unable to acknowledge submissions; writers whose letters are under consideration for publication will be contacted.

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OPINION

CARINE HAJJAR

Will Maine uproot Susan Collins? I went to a potato festival to find out.

FORT FAIRFIELD, Maine

Maine Democrats have transferred Graham Platner's working-class, populist playbook to their new U.S. Senate nominee, Troy Jackson. But the shift makes no difference to Susan Collins. The Republican senator is still leaning on her roots and record to show Maine voters why she deserves a sixth term.

"There's no one who has brought more money to the state of Maine than I have," Collins told me last week in Aroostook County — or "*The* County," as she calls it. Queuing for the Potato Blossom Festival parade in Fort Fairfield, the senator reminisced about growing up one town over, in Caribou, where she used to get pulled out of school to help harvest potatoes.

She told that story to voters along the parade route, explaining how the region's starchy staple gave her the tools to deliver $1.5 billion in federal dollars to the state over the past five years. "Susan, this is very hard work, but you can't quit," she recounted her mother saying. "You can't let the farmer down." Those words, Collins said, gave her the "wonderful work ethic" that she has taken to Washington and turned into nearly 700 projects across the state over her current term, according to her office.

Collins, who is 73 years old and has a benign tremor that recently prompted attention from political observers, was a petite but prominent figure along the parade route, jogging back and forth between constituents in her New Balance sneakers. A gaggle of young Mainers held a banner thanking the senator for "leading the way to save Job Corps," a career program for low-income youth. Last year Collins led the push to persuade the Labor Department to lift its freeze on enrollment in Maine.

"She's a County girl," Sandra Bonville said as she watched the parade. "You gotta be very thankful for everything that she's done for us County people." Darryl Peters from Eagle Lake said Collins has helped The County in such matters as dealing with homelessness and building firehouses. "Many of the communities up here are not affluent," she said. "She's been true to her state."

Collins is bound to have fans on her home turf of Aroostook, one of Maine's reddest counties. But even in bluer locales, the key question in the race isn't whether Collins is an effective senator — it's whether the letter next to her name is more important than her seniority and leverage.

A day earlier, at a Jackson rally in Portland, Paul Morrissey told me that losing Collins's influence on the Senate Appropriations Committee is "certainly a concern." But he cited the fatal Immigration and Customs Enforcement shooting in Biddeford as a reason for change: "We can no longer support someone, whether they bring in a lot of money into the state, that allows ICE to run rampant."

Collins's status as the first chair of the Appropriations Committee from Maine in nearly a century gives the state a valuable perch in the Senate. And one of the biggest challenges for Democrats running against her is proving they can be just as effective even as a freshman. Rather than trying to dispute Collins's appropriation prowess, Democrats are hoping that national politics will finally close in on a state that has historically rewarded moderates.

As Maine has drifted bluer over the Trump era, Collins has become the sole Republican senator in the state, which was carried by Kamala Harris in 2024. A June poll had President Donald Trump's approval in Maine at 36 percent.

A University of New Hampshire poll gives Jackson a three-point advantage, but he's close to the margin of error for likely voters. Jackson's campaign is casting Collins as an enabler of the most unpopular parts of Trump's agenda.

"I'm not going to say that anyone that got a new fire station or something like that, it wasn't a good thing," Jackson told me. "But what Senator Collins has brought back the state of Maine is a pittance to what we've lost."

SCOTT EISEN/GETTY IMAGES

U.S. Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine) at the annual Moxie Day Parade on July 11 in Lisbon, Maine.

Jackson argues that Collins's complicity in Trump's policies ends up costing Mainers. He used Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill, which included Medicaid cuts, as an example: "For me that's a pretty easy argument for anyone that actually understands numbers. She is not bringing in the money that she's taking out of the economy."

Collins was one of three Republican senators to vote against that bill, despite having voted to advance it to the floor. She told me the Medicaid cuts would have been "damaging to low-income families and to rural hospitals and health care clinics in my state." The senator was careful to mention that she helped secure a fund in the bill to offset costs for rural health providers.

Collins doesn't shy away from her rifts with Trump. She chuckled about how the president "has been known to mention it, that I have disagreed with him on some major issues." That audacity might explain why Collins has prevailed in Maine even when her party is flailing. When Trump lost in 2020, she won by nine points.

Collins is hoping that the Pine Tree State's independent streak will hold for yet another election as the nationalization of politics consumes local races. Maine has gotten outsize attention over the past couple of years for Gov. Janet Mills's tiff with Trump over transgender athletes as well as Platner's many controversies. But it's also a place where politics is still largely conducted via Facebook to reach voters in the oldest state in the nation.

Collins feels confident that her moderation will prevail against partisanship. "Troy has a very long record as a partisan legislative leader in Augusta," she said. "His approach is very partisan, and over the years, he's become much, much more far left than when he first started, to the point where he's really a democratic socialist now."

Collins said she'll support Trump "when he's right" — he has her support on voter ID and the "Trump accounts" for newborns — and "oppose him when I think he's wrong."

She has criticized some of the most confrontational aspects of Trump's immigration enforcement and has called for an independent investigation into the Biddeford shooting. Recently, she took Trump to task for his proposed 50 percent tariff on most Canadian goods, calling it a "huge mistake."

Like Collins, Jackson is a political veteran from The County. He has served two decades in the state legislature, including six years as Senate president. After losing the Democratic primary for governor in June, he decided to vie to take Platner's place after the disgraced candidate dropped out of the U.S. Senate race following a rape allegation. The Maine Democratic Party nominated Jackson as its new candidate last weekend.

At the rally in Portland, the former logger leaned into Platner's preference for public-facing stump speeches, contrasting with Collins's curated appearances at parades and festivals. He continues to champion such issues as universal health care, abolishing ICE and fighting corporations.

"I don't think it's Graham's [movement]. I don't think it'll be mine," Jackson said. It's a movement for people who have "been waiting forever for, you know, a government that works for them."

But Platner ran on unworkable policies as an angry newcomer without a record. It might be harder for Jackson to sell wholesale change after so many years in state government.

As for Collins, she's promising more of the same. And she seems comfortable letting that record stand.

MARC A. THIESSEN

Trump's Iran strategy is working. His vice president's isn't.

After the Iranian regime's ballistic missile attack on U.S. troops in Jordan, the time has come for President Donald Trump to take a good, hard look at the advice he is getting on Iran — what has worked, what has failed and who is responsible for those successes and failures.

Here's what has worked: His military chain of command, led by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Central Command head Adm. Brad Cooper, has delivered stunning success on the battlefield — entombing Iran's nuclear material, destroying more than 85 percent of its defense industrial base, sinking its navy, grounding its air force, decimating its ballistic missile capability, annihilating its conventional military forces and imposing a crippling blockade on its ports.

The Treasury Department, led by Secretary Scott Bessent, has turned the screws on Tehran with Operation Economic Fury — a campaign of economic warfare aimed at the regime's financial survival. The CIA, under the leadership of Director John Ratcliffe, has provided exquisite intelligence on Iran's military targets, nuclear program and the decision-making cycle of its leaders. The State Department under Secretary Marco Rubio has skillfully managed complicated regional diplomacy.

And, of course, there is Trump himself, who looked at a regime that has been waging war on America for 47 years and decided that he would be the first president to fight back. He has dramatically set back Iran's nuclear program — something no other commander in chief has had the courage to do.

What has failed? The ceasefire and memorandum of understanding negotiated by Vice President JD Vance — which have driven Trump into a strategic cul-de-sac of negotiations, Iranian violations and U.S. retaliatory strikes, followed by more negotiations. Case in point: Last weekend, as Trump was on the verge of ordering a resumption of major combat, he was told that the Iranians were desperate for a deal. So he paused to give peace a chance. Result? Iran fired five ballistic missiles at a U.S. military base in Jordan. This cycle has repeated for months. Like Lucy and the football, Trump keeps getting told that *this time* the Iranians are finally ready to make a deal — only to be set up for failure yet again. Indeed, by elevating a deal as the definition of victory, Vance has given Iran a veto over America's ability to declare victory. All it has to do is refuse to agree — which it is doing.

SAUL LOEB/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Vice President JD Vance

Worse, Vance continues to publicly contradict the president's positions. In a recent interview, he suggested that Trump might simply walk away, declaring, "If [the Iranians] don't comply with the deal, the straits are still open, we've still done incredible damage to their nuclear program, and we can get on with our lives as a country." That is not Trump's position. His position is: They'll comply or they will get blown up. In an interview with podcaster Joe Rogan, Vance warned that if Trump resumed major combat, there would be "94 million desperate people flooding into Europe, flooding into the United States." Really? Large numbers of Iranians are going to get across Trump's secure border? Ninety-four million people is the *entire population of Iran*.

Trump has never taken a resumption of major combat off the table. Why was Vance publicly warning of the dire consequences of the policy option (which Trump in fact nearly ordered just a few days ago)? The vice president doesn't get his own foreign policy.

As Vance publicly undermines the president, he is trying to dissuade Trump from resuming major combat with straw man arguments. On Rogan's podcast, he declared that those who advocate military action want to "send 150,000 ground troops in order to accomplish a change in a regime" and are being manipulated by Israel to "keep the war going on indefinitely ... not toward any objective, but just indefinitely."

No serious person is proposing to send 150,000 troops into Iran, and no one is advocating indefinite war. What many are advocating is completing the military plan that was paused in April when the ceasefire took effect — executing the final few weeks of the campaign the U.S.-Israeli combined force was carrying out. That campaign has very clear, defined objectives: eliminate remaining leadership figures; further entomb Iran's nuclear sites; take out Iran's remaining ballistic missile sites; destroy the economic and energy infrastructure that provides the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps with a financial lifeline, as well as key highways, railroads, airports and seaports by which the regime gets financial assistance from bordering countries; and demolish Iran's remaining defense industrial base so it cannot rebuild its destroyed capabilities.

That's it. Once these targets have been struck, the president should announce an end to major combat, keep the blockade in place, open the Strait of Hormuz and then provide covert support to the Iranian people to help them undermine and eventually bring down the regime — just as the United States provided covert support to freedom movements across the world during the Cold War that liberated 400 million people without U.S. boots on the ground.

Vance is lashing out at those with the temerity to point out that his memorandum of understanding has failed to change Iran's behavior or produce a deal to end the war. His failure has made a resumption of major combat inevitable. Because Trump has two clear nonnegotiable conditions for Iran: The regime must dismantle its nuclear program and open the Strait of Hormuz. And over the past several months, the regime has made clear, by its actions, that it has no intention of meeting those demands.

Perhaps it's time for the president to take the advice of those who have delivered him success in Iran — not those like Vance who have failed him.

Democrats are wasting time on the wrong battle

BY DONNA BRAZILE

As Americans suffer through an affordability crisis caused by President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans, too many Democrats are wasting time and energy feuding over whether party Chair Ken Martin should keep his job.

He should.

With the midterm elections only about three months away, Martin's departure now would create an unnecessary problem for the Democratic Party. We would need to quickly agree on a new Democratic National Committee chair, who would then have little time to get up to speed to help Democratic candidates win critical state offices and control of both houses of Congress.

Being DNC chair isn't easy. I know because I've held the job twice on an interim basis, served as an at-large member of the DNC since 1997, managed Vice President Al Gore's presidential campaign in 2000 and worked on Democratic campaigns since I was a teenager.

The chair needs to raise millions of dollars and decide how much of it to spend on House and Senate races, state parties and preparations for the 2028 presidential primary season. There is always a shortage of donors and a surplus of folks asking for cash and other help.

In addition, the chair must help build the infrastructure to support campaigns, work with state parties on presidential primaries and organize a convention to nominate a presidential candidate.

Ken Martin is navigating a difficult fundraising climate as he works to support the DNC; many generous presidential-year donors are less willing to invest during non-presidential years. While the DNC's debt exceeded its cash on hand by about $2.2 million at the end of June, the Republican National Committee had $128.5 million on hand and no debt.

Nonetheless, Martin has accomplished a great deal at the DNC. In his July 20 Substack post, he noted that the committee raised more than $207 million in the 18 months through June — more than it has ever before raised in a comparable period when Republicans controlled the White House.

The DNC is short of cash because it has spent most of the money it has raised on year-round staffing, organizing, improved technologies and aid to every state and territorial party, Martin wrote.

The strategy paid off with many Democratic victories in the 2025 elections, including enabling Democrats to capture governorships in New Jersey and Virginia, and to win in special elections this year.

Martin shows no signs of quitting. There is no move underway by my fellow DNC members to force him out. So let's move on.

Ken Martin shows no signs of quitting. ... So let's move on.

Instead of focusing on ousting Martin, we need donors big and small to come to the aid of the Democratic Party for the sake of our country. This will require prominent Democrats to volunteer their time to help Martin accelerate fundraising and boost support for our midterm candidates by calling major donors and speaking at fundraisers, rallies and other events.

Martin's future is not something most Americans worry or even care about. I'd wager that most don't even know who he is.

But millions of Americans do worry a great deal about paying the skyrocketing cost of fueling their cars, feeding their families and buying essentials. They worry about paying for housing, health care, day care for their young children and college for their older ones. They worry about losing their jobs and homes.

Between now and Election Day, Democrats backed by the DNC will need to explain to voters how the affordability crisis will worsen if Republicans keep control of the House and Senate and continue to do nothing to stop Trump from pursuing his harmful policies.

Trump falsely claims the affordability crisis was caused by the policies of his predecessor, Democratic President Joe Biden. In fact, the crisis has primarily been caused by Trump's war of choice against Iran, which has dramatically reduced exports of oil and natural gas from the Middle East, and by his broad tariffs that function like a national sales tax.

Americans want to see the president address their concerns, rather than be preoccupied with seeking vengeance against his perceived enemies, trying to rig elections, deporting hundreds of thousands of law-abiding immigrants who hold vital jobs, censoring how history is presented at museums and national parks, treating the presidency like an ATM, and ending diversity, equity and inclusion programs.

They are unhappy that Trump has cut taxes for the rich and government services for millions of other Americans and that he is wasting millions of their tax dollars on vanity projects, including a massive White House ballroom, a 250-foot-tall triumphal arch and the botched resurfacing of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool.

Democrats can win control of both houses of Congress in the midterms by rallying around what unites them. By advocating for pragmatic policies that most Americans support to make our country more affordable, rather than extremist socialist policies that most voters oppose. By promising to stop Trump from making life even less affordable.

All this is far more important than the internal politics of the DNC. Instead of focusing on Ken Martin's future, Democrats need to focus on convincing the American people that our candidates are best.

Donna Brazile is a member of the Democratic National Committee, for which she has twice served as interim chair.

Pentagon is betting on Silicon Valley start-ups to replenish stockpiles of arms

WEAPONS FROM **A1**

ground troops or drone warfare, the Pentagon is leaning on venture-backed start-ups to solve one of its most pressing problems: rebuilding America's weapons stockpiles at speed.

The meeting was filled with the Pentagon's top brass, including Steve Feinberg, the deputy defense secretary; Emil Michael, the undersecretary of defense for research and engineering; and Michael Duffey, the Pentagon's top acquisitions official.

Leading defense tech firms were summoned, including AI-aircraft software company Shield AI, the autonomous weapons firm Anduril, cruise missile start-up CoAspire and low-cost munitions maker Castelion. Some details of the meeting were previously reported by Breaking Defense.

In many ways, this is the moment Silicon Valley's defense entrepreneurs have said they were made for — to be cheaper, quicker and more nimble to the needs of the U.S. fighting force than legacy multibillion-dollar defense contractors.

They represent a sharp departure from established firms, which have far more experience managing clunky government acquisition processes and billions of dollars in capital to spend producing weapons en masse and lobbying lawmakers, but can move more slowly, especially in creating new supplies featuring cutting-edge technology, including artificial intelligence.

The urgent need for new weapons is a major test for the Trump administration, which has turbocharged its relationship with Silicon Valley and made collaboration with start-ups a core part of its weapons acquisition process. The conflict, according to industry experts, may reveal whether newcomers can deal with the challenging realities of providing weapons at scale, overcoming antiquated contracting processes and congressional gridlock.

Hegseth focused on these hurdles at the gathering, asking each executive what obstacles stood in the way of producing more weapons, according to the people. Several pointed to slow Pentagon contracting processes and the difficulty start-ups face securing enough up-front financing to fund large production runs and expensive research and development.

It's unclear, however, whether the industry's newest entrants can scale quickly enough to meet the Pentagon's demands.

ILLUSTRATION BY NATALIE VINEBERG/THE WASHINGTON POST; MATT MCCLAIN/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

"It's one thing to build … it's another thing to then mass produce," said Jerry McGinn, the director of the Center for the Industrial Base at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). "Can they deliver?"

Acting Pentagon press secretary Joel Valdez said in a statement to The Washington Post that the Defense Department is "transforming how the Department fights, buys, and builds" its weapons "to ensure we rapidly deliver critical technology to the warfighter at scale." He added that the department "will harness the creativity and drive of American innovators, clear bureaucratic blockers, and put our acquisition system on a wartime footing to deliver tangible solutions to the Joint Force."

Anduril and Shield AI did not reply to a request for comment.

'Begging to be unleashed'

In the second Trump administration, the Pentagon has made it increasingly clear that Silicon Valley will be essential in creating cheaper, smarter and smaller weapons to reshape how the U.S. fights war.

The Defense Department's top leadership has become stuffed with former Silicon Valley executives, bringing their start-up ethos to the Pentagon to transform the military.

Speaking in November at the National War College in Washington, Hegseth outlined his vision to overhaul the Pentagon's acquisition process in partnership with U.S. industry to ensure it can operate on a wartime footing.

"American industry and its innovative spirit are begging to be unleashed to solve our most complex and dangerous warfighting problems," he said. "We need to get out of our own way, out of your way and enter into real partnership with you rather than overprescribe and decelerate your natural progress."

Approximately 10,000 new defense tech companies have entered the market since 2024, according to a July report by CSIS. Nontraditional companies outside of legacy defense contractors received more than $120 billion in contract obligations in the 2025 fiscal year.

But one of the Pentagon's most urgent needs is munitions. The war with Iran has sharply depleted U.S. stockpiles, with CSIS estimating Monday that inventory of Patriot interceptors has fallen from 2,200 before the war to fewer than 827, and THAAD missiles from 452 to fewer than 278.

It could take three or more years to replenish the supply of THAAD and Patriot missile defense systems to what it was before the Iran war, according to a CSIS analysis in May, putting the U.S. at increased risk of service members dying and military assets abroad becoming damaged due to weakened defenses. Precision strike and joint air-to-surface missiles may take several months to a year to replace, according to the analysis.

The Defense Department is aiming to fill this gap by turning to tech companies that make low-cost munitions. The Pentagon's fiscal 2027 budget calls for nearly half of all of its munitions to be low-cost, with that share rising to 70 percent by fiscal 2031, CSIS analyzed.

This mindset has filtered into current agreements. In May, the Pentagon announced several multiyear arrangements with defense tech companies, including Anduril, Castelion, CoAspire, Leidos and Zone 5, to "aggressively expand" the U.S. military's strike capabilities and purchase their low-cost missiles.

The goal, according to the announcement, is to procure 10,000 low-cost cruise missiles in three years, starting in 2027. The Defense Department has also said it will issue a contract to Castelion to purchase a minimum of 500 of its low-cost hypersonic missiles annually — called Blackbeard — with a desire to buy up to 12,000 over five years if the technology receives proper testing accreditations.

McGinn of CSIS said the demand will expose the industry to the realities of making weapons in real-time. The start-ups have shown they can build the technology at low cost, he said, but now they have to prove their products are up to Pentagon standards, while navigating the whims of Congress, which appropriates defense spending.

Doug Denneny, the founder and chief executive of cruise missile start-up CoAspire, said start-ups face a challenge beyond mastering technological advancements.

"That is the direct messaging that we receive from the Department of War," he said, using the Trump administration's preferred name for the Defense Department. "'Great that you've got this great technology. … We get it. We believe it. You've demonstrated it. You've proven your capability. Now you have to manage your supply chain, and now you have to produce at scale. Otherwise, it's not worth the investment.'"

"The importance of that has been emphasized to me personally by senior leadership in the Pentagon," he added.

The rush to expand weapons production could also overwhelm the subcontractors that supply critical components, creating bottlenecks across the defense supply chain, Denneny said.

Bryon Hargis, co-founder and chief executive of Castelion, said the Pentagon's reliance on start-ups carries enormous pressure. His company's Blackbeard hypersonic missile could cost about $500,000 each — far below the roughly $5 million price tag of comparable weapons — but scaling production to meet military demand remains the challenge.

"I feel the weight of … everything that we still have yet to do and to build out," he said, adding that making good on supply promises is "going to be just tremendous amounts of pain over the next years."

He noted that the partnership is "an honor, but it's a great responsibility. Like I feel we have to deliver."

Left-leaning candidates have been gaining strength in recent primaries

POLL FROM **A1**

ally means, the poll indicates. When asked to describe what democratic socialists stand for, respondents provided a range of answers, from economic equality and universal health care to wealth redistribution and communism. No more than 13 percent of the public coalesced around any singular view.

Democrats are more likely to describe democratic socialism as standing for economic equality, helping ordinary people and expanded social programs. Republicans are more apt to mention communism or Marxism, government control or providing undeserved benefits. Independents mention a mix of all of these topics.

Republicans and right-wing influencers are increasingly invoking "communism," often to criticize democratic socialists and the Democratic Party broadly, according to a Washington Post analysis. Americans split on this comparison in the Post-Ipsos poll, with 30 percent saying democratic socialism is similar to communism while 32 percent say it is different and 36 percent saying they are not sure.

Democratic socialism has clearly caught on with many Democrats, fueling questions about how that energy will affect upcoming elections, including the 2028 presidential race. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-New York), a DSA member, is viewed as a potential presidential candidate.

The Post-Ipsos poll indicates that 55 percent of Americans would not consider voting for a democratic socialist for president, while 39 percent would consider supporting one and 6 percent having no opinion. A majority of self-described independents, 54 percent, would also rule out a democratic socialist candidate.

A much smaller segment of Americans — 15 percent — say they like leaders who identify as democratic socialists, compared with 36 percent who dislike them and nearly half saying they neither like nor dislike democratic socialists, the poll shows.

About one-third of Democrats say they like democratic socialist candidates and 10 percent dislike them, but most have neither positive nor negative views of them. Republicans are more negative, with 7 in 10 disliking democratic socialists.

Age and education level appear to be the strongest factors in explaining views of democratic socialism, with young people the most open to supporting them.

Forty-six percent of Americans under age 30 say they would consider supporting a democratic socialist for president. Willingness to consider a democratic socialist candidate drops to 36 percent among those ages 50 to 64 and down to 33 percent among people older than that.

People with postgraduate degrees stand out as the biggest potential supporters, with 51 percent willing to support a democratic socialist candidate for president. That's compared with 44 percent of bachelor's degree holders, 39 percent of those with some college education and 32 percent of those who did not attend college.

The DSA, which this month said it now has more than 120,000 dues-paying members in 220 local chapters, has focused on organizing year-round, including at events outside the frame of political campaigns, such as abortion clinic defenses, "know your rights" trainings for immigrants and clothing swaps to give transgender and gender-nonconforming people easy access to the clothing they prefer.

The group's canvassing infrastructure — and strong support among young people — powered the rise of New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani (D) last year as well as other candidates in congressional and state legislature primaries this summer in New York, Philadelphia and Denver.

But critics have also attacked the group as a movement of wealthier, White, highly educated gentrifiers who are displacing the Black and Latino voters who were once at the heart of progressive electoral machines in those cities.

Some longtime Black political leaders have pointed to a video from an election-night watch party for one New York DSA candidate, Claire Valdez, in which mostly White supporters were booing television footage of House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-New York) — and then chanting, "You're next!"

The Post-Ipsos poll finds Black Americans are more likely than White and Hispanic Americans to be open to a democratic socialist candidates. But White Democrats are about twice as likely as Black Democrats to say they like when political leaders identify as democratic socialists, at 42 percent vs. 22 percent.

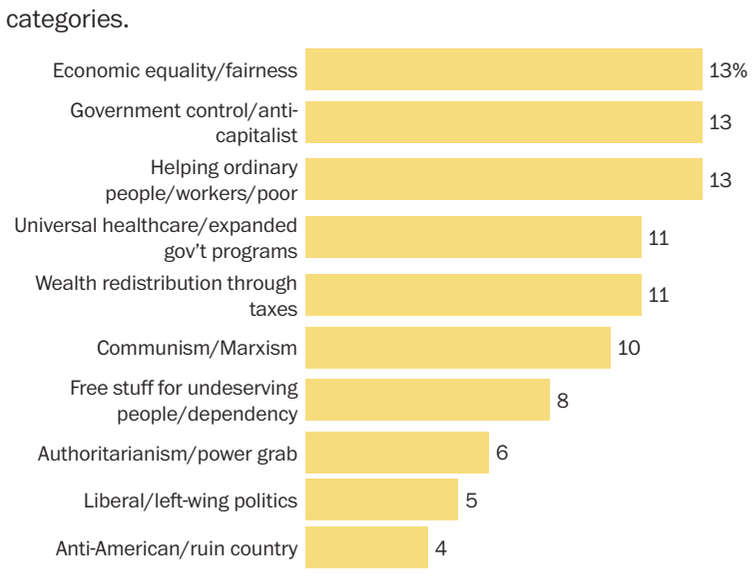
And while one core tenet of democratic socialism is their aim to fight poverty and wealth inequality, support for the movement does not fall neatly along income lines.

For instance, Americans with incomes over $100,000 are more likely to say they would consider voting for a democratic socialist in a presidential election than those with incomes below $50,000. But people with higher incomes are more likely to say they "dislike" democratic socialists, while those with lower incomes are more likely to offer no opinion either way.

The poll was conducted online July 8-13 among 2,648 U.S. adults nationwide reached through the Ipsos KnowledgePanel, an ongoing panel of U.S. households recruited by mail using random sampling methods. Overall results have a margin of error of plus or minus 1.9 percentage points. The sample was weighted to match population demographics, 2024 turnout/vote choice and political partisanship.

What do Americans think democratic socialists stand for?

Survey question was open-ended, with responses grouped into categories.

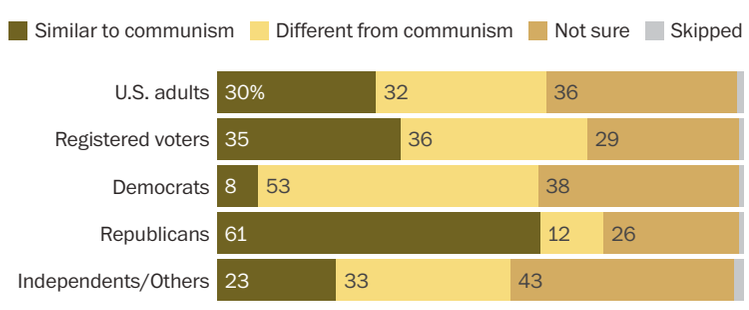


Note: Respondents who gave no answer not included in percentages; individual responses classified into up to three categories. Categories below 3% not shown.

Source: Washington Post-Ipsos poll July 8-13, 2026, among 1,702 U.S. adults who provided a description of what democratic socialists stand for with an error margin of +/- 2.4 percentage points.

Americans are divided on whether democratic socialism is similar to communism

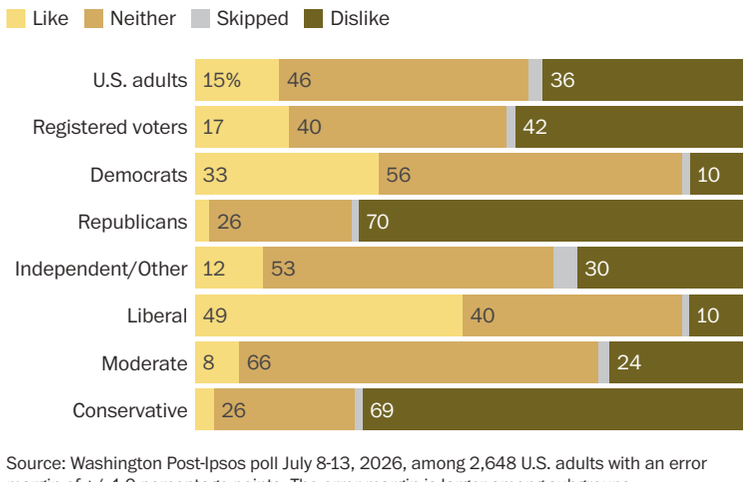
Q: Do you think democratic socialism is similar to communism, different from communism, or are you not sure?



Source: Washington Post-Ipsos poll July 8-13, 2026, among 2,648 U.S. adults with an error margin of +/- 1.9 percentage points. The error margin is larger among subgroups.

Fewer than 1 in 6 Americans like political leaders who identify as democratic socialists, rising to about half of liberals

Q: How much do you like or dislike political leaders who identify as democratic socialists?



Source: Washington Post-Ipsos poll July 8-13, 2026, among 2,648 U.S. adults with an error margin of +/- 1.9 percentage points. The error margin is larger among subgroups.

SPORTS

The DC Open ball crew is always present but remains largely anonymous. **B7**

METRO

Her arrest by the National Guard went viral. Now she's taking legal action. **B13**

The Washington Post
Style

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

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SARAH A. MILLER/IDAHO STATESMAN/AP

Boise State University students, along with people who knew the four University of Idaho students found killed in Moscow, Idaho, days earlier, at a vigil on the Boise State campus in November 2022.

Game show whiz just can't stop winning

'Jeopardy!' champ and Ben Affleck land top 'Millionaire' prize

BY EMILY YAHR

"Jeopardy!" champion Jamie Ding just can't stop winning money on TV.

This past spring, the New Jersey state government employee deemed "the nicest 'Jeopardy!' champion of all time" racked up $882,605 on the quiz show, becoming the fifth-highest earner (behind Ken Jennings, James Holzhauer, Matt Amodio and Amy Schneider) after 31 wins in a row. On Wednesday night, Ding teamed up with Ben Affleck on ABC's "Who Wants To Be a Millionaire" and triumphed yet again, landing the rare $1 million prize.

This is only the 15th time in "Millionaire" history that a person or team has won the top prize since the show started airing in 1999, hosted by Regis Philbin. This latest version, helmed by Jimmy Kimmel, launched in 2020 and features celebrities competing for charity.

ABC confirmed there had been seven prime-time winners, three syndicated wins, and four celebrity wins. The previous $1 million star winners are chef David Chang; actor Ike Barinholtz and his father; "The Office" stars Oscar Nuñez and Kate Flannery; and, incidentally, "Jeopardy!" icon (and current host) Jennings and Affleck's best friend (and Kimmel "enemy") Matt Damon.

The "Jeopardy!"-legend-meets-"Good Will Hunting" combo worked out quite well again, as Ding and Affleck were paired to play for Affleck's longtime nonprofit, the Eastern Congo Initia-

SEE **MILLIONAIRE** ON **B3**

SCREENS

The stories true crime makes us tell

As 'Netflix documentary' trend takes off, meme reminds viewers of real-life horrors

BY MONICA HESSE

My favorite summer TikTok trend is one that spoofs Netflix true crime dramas by applying their narrative formula to mundane, everyday situations. In this trend, you might watch a nervous-looking woman sit down in front of a camera, fiddle with her microphone, and confess that she was the colleague who took Cara's Diet Dr Pepper from the office fridge. Or you might watch a family grimly assemble under ominous type reading, "The dad who forgot to gas the car before driving to Disney."

The trend has become known as "Preparing for my Netflix documentary," and the hive mind of the internet has immediately pushed its boundaries. Some content creators use it as a shorthand to introduce viewers to their personal brand, i.e. "Preparing for my Netflix documentary on how we met as an ER Nurse and police sergeant and blended 11 children." Sometimes it's just a joke: I saw one recently titled "Preparing for my Netflix documentary about having this stomach parasite" in which, as a woman gingerly positions herself in front of the camera, she reveals a cartoonish brown stain on the back of her shorts.

Like most things that happen online, in order to think it was funny, you kind of had to see it yourself.

But this week as I was watching a new Netflix crime series, I thought about how spot-on the meme is. "The Idaho Murders: College Nightmare," is a three-part docudrama about a case you

SEE **SCREENS** ON **B2**

Kaylee Goncalves
Ethan Chapin
Xana Kernodle
Madison Mogen
WE NEED YOUR HELP
We are asking for your help. Please email or call the Moscow Police Department tip lines below with any information you have that could help solve this horrific crime that has devastated the friends and families of Kaylee, Ethan, Xana, and Madison. Any information you have, no matter how small or insignificant you may think it is, could help bring justice.
tipline@ci.moscow.id.us
(208) 883-7180
Digital Media: fbi.gov/moscowidaho

TED S. WARREN/AP

A flier seeking information on the killings of the four students in 2022. Netflix did a three-part docudrama on the case.

TV REVIEW

Fascinating less for plot than performers

Emmy Rossum attacks 'Furious' role as if playing a Greek tragedy

BY ROBERT LLOYD
Los Angeles Times

"Furious," which premiered Monday on Hulu, is technically a serial killer story, since there are multiple murders committed by a single character, but happily that is the least of it.

Broadly speaking, these kinds of stories — powered by a stop-them-before-they-kill-again clock, making their antagonists out to be finicky geniuses or horror movie monsters instead of opportunistic mediocrities — strike me as a low form of fiction. But "Furious" is as much relationship drama as procedural, ani-

SEE **TV REVIEW** ON **B2**

MOVIES IN WEEKEND

Spider-Man: Brand New Day
★★★☆
Reboot is messy but successful. **14**

I Want Your Sex
★★★½
A refreshingly honest rom-com. **15**

TikTok trend serves as reminder of true crime nightmares

SCREENS FROM **B1**

surely heard of: four students murdered in their beds by a man who turned out to be the closest thing imaginable to a genuine monster. Bryan Kohberger was a PhD student studying criminology at a different university when he began stalking the house inhabited by Kaylee Goncalves, Ethan Chapin, Xana Kernodle and Madison Mogen. On Nov. 13, 2022, he sneaked inside and stabbed them all; he was arrested the next month after law enforcement matched ancestral DNA.

The series is directed by Skye Borgman, who has become the Steven Spielberg of Netflix true crime. If you have gaped at any bonkers docudrama in the past five years it was probably hers: "Unknown Number: the High School Catfish"; "Abducted in Plain Sight," "Girl in the Picture," "My Father, the BTK Killer," and more.

The cases she follows are horrifying and unbelievable, and the formula she follows is satisfying and predictable. In "The Idaho Murders," we begin with tense music and police-cam footage from the morning after the killings. But soon we're in a series of professionally lit living rooms, watching relatives and acquaintances settle onto love seats and take a deep breath before explaining their small parts in this abysmal nightmare. Xana's former roommate describes watching Xana and Ethan fall in love; Kohberger's former classmate recalls turning on the TV to realize that the arrested suspect was the teaching assistant she'd always thought had a problem with women.

There were two other housemates who were not murdered that night. They don't sit for interviews and you can hardly blame them: Both young women received a lot of criticism when it came out that they were aware of an intruder at 4 a.m. but didn't dial 911 until many hours later, in the light of day. The documentary doesn't exactly explain why, but it does play footage of the housemates' terrified initial conversations with police as they try to make sense of the preceding night: it was confusing, it was dark, they were scared.

Maybe even when you think the bad guy has left your house, you're still afraid to move a muscle; maybe when you realize that four of your friends are dead and you are not, the answer to "When will it be safe to speak out loud?" starts to feel like "Never."

REBECCA NOBLE/REUTERS

A sign calling for the return of Nancy Guthrie, who was kidnapped on Feb. 1 in Tucson, Arizona, stands outside her home on Feb. 21.

Several parents of the victims do participate, and this feels like a nearly unfathomable task, to get up in the morning and think about which polo shirt is the best choice for telling a movie director that at least your daughter had fallen asleep in the bed with her childhood best friend before they were both stabbed to death by a hunting knife.

But somehow they do it, these parents. One mom reveals that while the campus hurried to tear down the ramshackle house where the murders happened, she had wanted it to stay erect. Yes, her daughter died there, but her daughter also *lived* there, and those are the only memories she as a mother will ever get.

Maybe that's how these parents are doing it: when there is nothing else you will be able to do for your child, telling their story is all you have. So here you are, preparing for your Netflix documentary.

The topic of true crime is about the terrible things humans do to one another, but the genre of true crime is about the way we feebly try to make order out of those terrible things. The storytelling, the scripts we follow, the cliffhangers we observe: *It was just an ordinary day. She lit up a room. Couldn't have imagined what would happen next.*

"Preparing for my Netflix documentary" not only plays with the idea that our lives may contain unexpected peril, but also with the idea that when that peril comes, we will be ready to narrate it for an audience. "Was it a good documentary?" is a question that will be answered not based on whether the crime was noteworthy but whether the story was well told.

There is a fascinating exploration of rhetoric happening here, a Greek chorus in real time. Communally, we are learning how to create a narrative of trauma. It says something that I can't quite put my finger on about the world we currently live in — that we are so accustomed to chaos and violence that we might automatically cast ourselves in crucial roles: What would you do in an ICE raid, a sexual assault, an insurrection? How would you justify or explain your role later?

In the middle of "The Idaho Murders," a clip stopped me in my tracks. I *couldn't have imagined what would happen next,* but there she was: Savannah Guthrie, morning television host, solemnly discussing the Idaho stabbings in old footage from the "Today" show.

At the time that episode would have been filmed, in 2022 or 2023, Savannah's mother, Nancy Guthrie, would have been safe at her home in Arizona.

Two years later, she was kidnapped from that home in the middle of the night. Law enforcement was able to retrieve footage of a masked intruder gaining entrance; there was a request for a ransom, which the Guthrie family promised to pay. But Nancy has never returned and the family remains in hellish purgatory. Periodically the Guthrie siblings, with Savannah as their chosen voice, make a video begging the public to help.

The very afternoon that I spotted Savannah's appearance in "The Idaho Murders," such a video had just emerged.

This one was just her alone, in a simple white shirt and black cardigan, high up in the frame as if she'd propped her phone on a kitchen table before hitting record. "It has been months since our mom was taken from us. Our family is in agony. We are in a nightmare that will not end," she said.

She appeared to be directly addressing the kidnapper, saying, "The world can be a cruel and unforgiving place, and I know that you have tried to do things the right way. So I am asking you, begging you, to do the right thing now. Make the right choice. Help us find her. Tell us where to look for her." She told the kidnapper, "We have done our part."

That line stood out. It made the video seem as though it was prompted by a specific incident. This was not Savannah missing her mother and randomly picking up her phone, this felt more like there were developments in the background — Money transfers? Communications? — that we were not privy to. The message appeared delicately crafted and workshopped, with the goal of telling the kidnapper that the Guthrie family viewed him as a human, that they had, in spite of everything, compassion.

I wondered whether Savannah might have preferred to erupt in primal rage, or whether, as an experienced newswoman, this was her preference: to follow the script designed for maximum narrative impact, to know how to reach an audience.

Savannah had recently announced she would be taking a leave of absence from the "Today" show in order to film another project, a show based on the popular online game, "Wordle." Can you imagine, toggling between a measured address to your mother's kidnapper and a chipper hosting gig where you tell contestants, sorry, there are no R's? To go from choosing words more carefully and consequentially than you ever have in your life to a setting where the words are random and mean absolutely nothing? *Spoon, beach, fetal, anger, grief, acorn, scrub.*

Nobody could possibly be ready for this, but if anyone could, maybe it is a morning show host who understands that life itself toggles between quiche recipes and mass shootings, between pet fashion and four college students who were murdered in Idaho.

God, what that family wakes up and endures each day.

Everything I write these days feels like it is actually about what it feels like to live in America. The banality and the chaos, the push and pull of technology, the shaping of stories in real time.

None of us can imagine the grief of Savannah Guthrie or the families of the Idaho college students, even as we empathize with their anguish. But maybe we can imagine the fear that something might happen to us — something unfathomable on what was otherwise an ordinary day — and strip the fear of its grip by meme-making.

We are preparing for our Netflix documentaries. Taking a deep breath, clipping on a microphone.

Trying not to be nitpicky, but bothered by wife's friends leaving the toilet lid up

Carolyn Hax

Dear Carolyn: A somewhat silly disagreement has created tension in our home. I was raised that the proper state to leave a toilet after use is with the lid down. My wife was, too, so it initially wasn't an issue.

However, her many girlfriends apparently never received this training, and they like to leave it with the seat down, lid up. Not sure why this bothers me so, but it does.

I thought it would be awkward to confront them about this, so I ordered some attractive stickers to put on the bottom of the lid that say, "Please close me." Problem solved, I thought, but the sticker tormented my wife. She saw red every time she noticed it and asked many times that I remove it. (I have to give her credit for not taking it off herself.)

I finally relented, so the issue persists. My position is that either she tells them to close the lid when they're done, or I'll go back to the sticker.

I don't know which is worse — my having to live with the lid frequently being left up, or her having to live with the sticker on the lid. Looking for a disinterested third party to give guidance on what to do.

— *Bothered*

ILLUSTRATION BY NICK GALIFIANAKIS/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Bothered: Those are my only two choices? Because this is worse: her having to live with your making this everyone else's problem.

That's kind of a mouthful, though. Keyboardful. So how bout just: choosing a toilet as your hill to die on.

There you go. Worse.

It's your hang-up, period. It's not something your wife is doing, besides having friends, or a practice you and your wife disagree on. It's not something your guests are doing *to* you, or to your marriage, or out of malice or recklessness. It's fairly banal occasional-guest behavior, if suboptimal, that I can wildly guess with confidence most people don't even notice, much less beef over.

So when you offer those lid-up-or-sticker choices, you falsely present the burden as one you and your wife somehow need to distribute evenly between you, as if it's her problem, too, when it's just … not.

For the record, I know the horror science on droplet velocity and bacteria content with each unlidded flush. So I'm in the lid-down camp. (Our secret handshake is no handshake.) But I will never sticker my lids or stress my household over the behavior of the visiting uninformed.

Why? Because:

- My people are more important.
- Humans are so lavishly gross in so many other ways (don't start me on the mean, blinkered and lethal), that it seems almost cute to fixate on this nearly inconsequential one. Plus I hide my toothbrush.
- A toilet is not the hill I want to die on.

If this subject preoccupies you to the extent that you'd reprioritize your thinking, too, if you could, but you can't — and especially if you dwell on other hygiene issues to the point of other relationship tensions — then talk to your doctor.

I'm serious. There is a threshold beyond which a "somewhat silly disagreement" is not one at all, but instead a basic nitpick that has become inflamed into intrusive thoughts. Those are a health issue unto themselves that will wear down your relationships. More important, they just feel bad. They're also likely treatable. If you think you might be there, then get an evaluation and get the help you need.

Write to Carolyn Hax at *tellme@washpost.com*. Get her newsletter delivered to your inbox each *morning at wapo.st/gethax*.

Join the discussion live at noon Fridays at *washingtonpost.com/live-chats*.

'Furious' is a serial killer story filled with forceful, excellent performances

TV REVIEW FROM **B1**

mated by a quartet of excellent performances, with some things to say about abuse, exploitation and love along the way.

Although "Furious," created by Elizabeth Meriwether ("New Girl," "Dying for Sex"), acknowledges an inspirational debt to the 1987 Theresa Russell-Debra Winger film "Black Widow," all it really preserves are a couple of names, the idea of a female serial killer and an emotional relationship with the woman hunting her. The killer is Catherine (Lola Petticrew), a petite young woman who goes about in a variety of wigs, under a variety of names, careful to mask in public. Her murdering is not a compulsion but a mission, like Jeanne Moreau in "The Bride Wore Black."

Her nemesis is Alice Black (Emmy Rossum), a former police detective now answering phones for the FBI. She became persona non grata in the NYPD after identifying her detective boyfriend (Jake Lacy as Marshall) as the person who put her in the hospital, because, you know, cops. One day a request comes from former colleague Danny Kelly (Scoot McNairy) to assist him in investigating the homicide we see Catherine commit at the top of the series.

Various elements of the crime bring to mind an earlier killing; Alice believes they're connected and might have something to do with sex trafficking or, eventually, a Jane Doe cold case. This brings her to the desk of Nora Washington (Quincy Tyler Bernstine), who also happens to be running the very FBI department Alice has been hoping to join. "You requested my squad," says Nora. "Why do you want to work in the basement on sex crimes and crimes against children — do you hate yourself?" Maybe she does — she orchestrates internet dates where foreplay is a fistfight, and has some relevant trauma in her past.

Sharing scenes with the other principal characters, intense or sensitive as the moment requires, Alice is the hub around whom the series revolves and hurtles forward. Danny, who found himself isolated in the department when he said he believed her, is her only friend. ("But here's the crazy s—. You don't … talk to me anymore, either.") Nora, who has a hard edge and a drinking problem, has a few things to teach her, sometimes with a quote from Balzac ("Laws are spiderwebs through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught") and Beckett (the dead "make a noise like feathers") or a tale from Greek mythology. ("I'm not a former cop. I went to a fancy school, and I'm very smart," she says, very drunk.)

SARAH SHATZ/DISNEY

From left, Frank Pando, Emmy Rossum and Quincy Tyler Bernstine in "Furious, " which premiered Monday on Hulu.

As to Catherine, she is a mix of a sly fox and a wounded bird. She may be manipulative and murderous, but as we're given reasons to dislike her victims, a collection of rich white people — with one sad exception — and because Alice feels connected to her in some way, and because she's had a terrible life, there is not a little of the protagonist in her antagonist. There are some sad ironies stitched into the plot, and an upsetting late twist, though the show doesn't wallow in it. We understand that Catherine has her reasons, and in a strange way we want to see her carry out her mission. She may be a killer, but she isn't the villain.

It's not perfect. We are not surprised at least as much as we are. Some of the plot points strain credulity. There are some old-school jurisdictional clashes between the police and the FBI (as in every fourth episode of "The Closer"), and a heaping helping of professional jealousy within departments.

But the show stays fascinating less for the plot than for the performers. Rossum attacks her role as if playing a Greek tragedy. (The hair redoubles the impression.) McNairy, one of TV's most likable actors, brings warmth. Petticrew evokes broken innocence. Bernstine finds new notes in a role that typically runs to cliché.

I also want to mention the great Hope Davis as the sister of a victim, the son of a well-connected mogul with something to hide, and especially Steve Way, as Alden ("Ramy"), a force for good in Catherine's life, and for humor in the series; born with spinal muscular atrophy, he manages some excellent physical comedy in his motorized wheelchair. The direction (Brian Kirk helmed the first two episodes) is crisp and matter of fact, staying out of the way, which is all you can ask when the writing is good and the actors are too.

Furious (8 episodes) streams Mondays on Hulu.

Ben Affleck and 'Jeopardy!' champ win big on 'Millionaire'

MILLIONAIRE FROM **B1**

tive. The first part of their game aired last week on the season premiere, where they made it all the way up to $250,000 by answering 13 questions in a row.

Affleck took on the self-deprecating role, repeatedly joking that he was there to ride the coattails of the trivia expert. However, Ding said that "Millionaire" has its own difficulties because "your ignorance is laid bare for the world to see," unlike in "Jeopardy!," where no one knows whether you were about to buzz in.

As usual in "Millionaire," the early multiple-choice questions were comically easy, asking what the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends to do seven hours a day (brushing your teeth or sleeping?) and what event is celebrated with the Times Square countdown clock. Between answers, Kimmel bantered with the pair, asking Ding his favorite Affleck movie. Ding went with "Good Will Hunting," explaining that he had watched it in full for the first time the day before, though he had seen many of the clips on YouTube. (Affleck's face during this answer was priceless.)

Things started to heat up around the $32,000-question mark when they were stumped about which McDonald's sandwich is served with a half-slice of cheese. "I eat a lot of McDonald's. Like, a *lot*. All the time," Affleck confessed, to laughter from the studio. Still, he wasn't sure and suspected that the crowd might know — so the pair used one of their four lifelines to ask the audience, which correctly guessed the response was Filet-O-Fish.

They breezed through to $125,000, where they had a debate about the subject of the poem "The Mighty Task is Done" but went with the Golden Gate Bridge. Then Affleck, well-versed in Spanish traditions, happened to know that men dressed in devil costumes jump over babies at the annual festival El Colacho, so they scooped up $250,000.

At this point, the premiere ended, and viewers had to wait a week to see whether Ding and Affleck could get it done. Wednesday's episode kicked off with their final two questions, with the $1 million query about the names of turkey duos who have been pardoned by presidents, and which of the four choices was made up: Was it Peanut Butter and Jelly? Tater and Tot? Mac and Cheese? Or Spaghetti and Meatball?

ERIC MCCANDLESS/DISNEY

Jamie Ding and Ben Affleck, who played for charity, with a million-dollar check made out to the Eastern Congo Initiative.

"You must be kidding me," Affleck deadpanned. They had no idea, so they used their final two lifelines: phone a friend (the friend didn't know) and ask the host. Kimmel, thinking back through his many jokes on his late-night show about turkey pardons, suspected that "Spaghetti and Meatball" was the fake turkey duo — though he said he could have seen himself making a joke about President Donald Trump messily eating spaghetti. So he wasn't certain.

In the end, Ding and Affleck went with Kimmel's guess … and it paid off. They won $1 million and jumped up and embraced as confetti rained down, as a giant check was presented for the Eastern Congo Initiative.

And if they made it look easy, the next two celebrity pairs in the episode showed that was not the case: Jason Alexander and Wayne Knight, followed by Tig Notaro and Pete Holmes, each missed out on the $64,000 question, ending their games.

Trying to tell my female friends I don't want to invite the husbands to our lunches

Miss Manners

JUDITH MARTIN, JACOBINA MARTIN AND NICHOLAS IVOR MARTIN

Dear Miss Manners: I enjoy going out with my women friends for lunch (just two of us). It is wonderful to get away from my house and my husband.

But recently, two of my friends have suggested that their husbands, and mine, join us. I hate this idea because I don't care to be around the husbands, and it would severely limit our conversation (I've been around their husbands before).

What do I say besides, "I don't want to do that?"

"Perhaps we could once in a while. But I would love to also keep doing it with just the women. You know, so that we can talk about the husbands."

And then Miss Manners suggests you show enough of a glint in your eye, to indicate that you have some really good gossip to share, to entice them. You can decide later whether or not you actually want to share it.

Dear Miss Manners: My daughter married a great guy. They have two delightful young children and very fulfilling and busy lives. I do a lot of babysitting, both to help them out and because it's a true joy.

The only issue is that my son-in-law is a complete slob. When he takes a shower, the towel remains on the floor. His boxers are right there where he stepped out of them. Dirty cups and dishes abound.

The last time I babysat, he manscaped, and left his hair in the tub, which I had to clean up to bathe my grandchildren later. Things are always out of place, both inside and outside of the house.

My daughter knows all this and admits her own standards of tidiness have fallen. However, she says it's his only flaw (true), and she can deal with it.

I'm not sure I can. I am often horrified at what he has left for his mother-in-law to see. Sometimes leaving the mess alone is not an option (see manscaping).

Is there a way I can address this? Do I speak to my daughter first? I love them so much, truly enjoy my time there and don't want to cause an issue. That being said, it's just gross sometimes.

Ew. While you cannot admonish subpar or diminishing standards, which is not your business, you can address your grandchildren's comfort and safety, which is — at least when you babysit.

Miss Manners recommends you only comment on things that concern them and your ability to care for them (see manscaping).

She recommends you speak to your daughter — who already seems to be aware of the problem — and cite it as a safety issue. Mention that you had to clean up the bathtub last time and although you would not mind, you are afraid that in doing so, you will not have eyes on the children and that scares you.

The same goes for the dishes in the sink, the towel in the shower, the boxers on the floor …

New Miss Manners columns are posted Monday through Saturday on *washingtonpost.com/advice*. You can send questions to Miss Manners at her website, *missmanners.com*. You can also follow her *@RealMissManners*.

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Parents hesitant on relocating to be near adult kids living many miles away

Asking Eric

R. ERIC THOMAS

Dear Eric: My spouse and I are in our late 60s. Our two kids are in their late 30s. Two years ago our oldest moved more than 2,100 miles away with our two grandkids. They had been talking about it for a while.

Then, out of the blue, our youngest child moved more than 800 miles away six months later.

We don't have much family near us. We are retired and have a second home in the same state as our oldest is living in and our youngest fiancé's family lives there, too.

We are thinking about moving permanently to be closer to our oldest and grandchildren. We would even see our younger child more. I have heard you shouldn't follow your kids. We miss them all so much and aren't getting any younger. Your thoughts? Is this a big mistake?

— Sad Parents

Parents: It doesn't seem like a mistake at all. Indeed, because you already have a home there, it seems like a very graceful solution.

The advice about not following your kids is often about not abandoning your life and support systems and assuming your kids will fill in the gaps. It requires a little more nuance. All of it boils down to clear communication and clear expectations.

It's natural to want to be with family and when your situation changes or your priorities change, it's natural to want to respond to that change. So, talk to your kids about what you're thinking about doing. Think through what your life would look like if you spent all your time in your second home. What kind of expectations would you have about spending time with your kids and their families? Talk through those with your kids to see if their expectations match up with yours.

A family is an ecosystem. When one aspect of that ecosystem changes, it affects everything else. You're free to move wherever you want to move, but it's important to do so with clear eyes about how your life will be different. It'll also help to think about what you can do to fill out your schedule and your support system, should you choose to move permanently. It's good to talk about this with your kids, as well, so that they don't assume you'll be babysitting 24/7 or they don't assume they'll have to entertain you all of the time.

Dear Eric: Father's Day has always been important to me. I'm almost 70 years old and I'm very fortunate that my father is still living. I have a lot of respect for my father, and he has been a role model in my life. My wife and most of my friends have already lost both parents so I don't take this holiday for granted.

We always get together with my father on Father's Day or take him out for dinner the night before. We also give him a card and a small gift which he appreciates. We have been very generous with our children, both financially and with our time. We have a good relationship with both of them and our daughters-in-law.

Our two sons, who are also fathers, celebrate with their own families but don't seem to recognize its importance to me. One lives several hours away and the other lives out of state, so I don't expect a personal visit. I will receive a gift from them, but it's always after the actual holiday and they never send a card.

Similarly, they also do this to my wife on Mother's Day. This year, neither of them took the time to call me and I was very hurt by this. The next time they call and ask me if I had a good Father's Day, I plan to tell them this. Am I being overly sensitive or should I just lower my expectations and let it go?

— Confused Dad

Dad: You're not being overly sensitive and it's so important to communicate with our loved ones about how we like to be shown love. You may not want to wait until they call and ask. Instead, consider reaching out and telling them that Father's Day (and any other special day) means a lot to you and when they call it reminds you that you're valued. Explain to them what's happening on your side of the street when you don't get calls. Ask them to try to make it a priority to reach out in the future.

Sometimes those we love don't do all the things we wish they would. And it's easy to read those slights as a lack of care. When that happens, it's helpful to talk it out. You may find that they don't realize how important the day is for you and don't understand what they're conveying by not picking up the phone.

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at *eric@askingeric.com* or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, PA 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at *rericthomas.com*

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Recording Academy CEO 'saddened' by BTS refusing Grammy submissions

BY MARIA SHERMAN
Associated Press

Recording Academy CEO Harvey Mason Jr. has responded to the news that K-pop powerhouse BTS will not submit their music for consideration at the forthcoming 2027 Grammy Awards.

"I am saddened to hear that BTS has chosen not to participate in the Grammy Awards process this year, but as a music creator, I understand and respect their decision," Mason Jr. wrote on the Grammys' official Instagram page.

On Wednesday, all seven BTS members — RM, Suga, J-hope, Jimin, V, Jung Kook and Jin — shared the same note on Instagram, stating that they would not be submitting their comeback album, "Arirang" or its songs for Grammys.

"We hope our music can be heard and loved for what it is, rather than being divided by region or language," they wrote, just over a month after the Recording Academy announced five new Grammy categories, which include best Asian pop music performance.

According to the rule book, the category recognizes releases across K-pop, J-pop, C-pop and beyond. But some fans viewed it as a racialized barrier for Asian performers.

In his statement, Mason Jr. stated that the new category was created to celebrate more voices across the Asian music industry — not to separate those artists from other awards.

"I do want to clarify something that seems to be getting lost in the conversation. The Asian Pop category was created to celebrate the depth, diversity and extraordinary growth of pop artistry coming out of Asia," he wrote. "More categories mean more artists' work is recognized. It's never to divide, but to expand who is recognized by our 15,000 Grammy voters."

He added a reminder that submitting in a genre category — such as the new Asian pop award — does not exclude an artist from submitting to the general field categories like album, song and record of the year.

"Recognition in a genre category and recognition in the General Field are not mutually exclusive," Mason Jr. said. "An artist can absolutely pursue both."

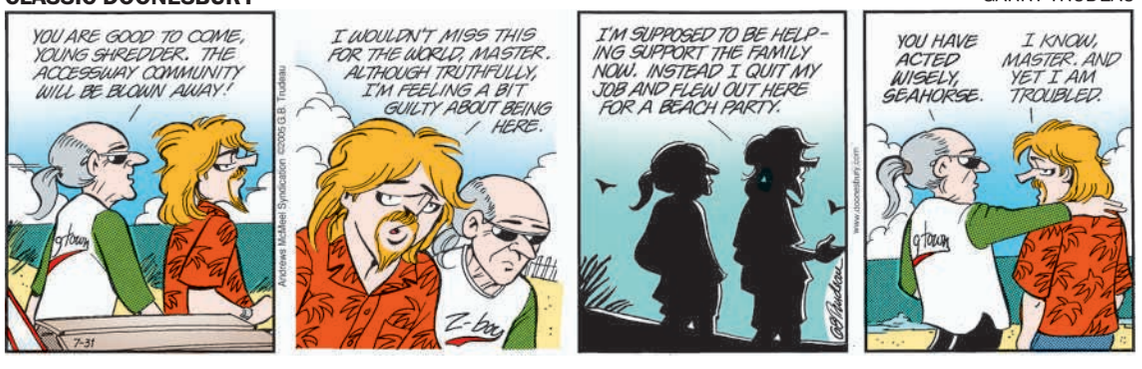
BTS has never won a Grammy, though they've been nominated for five: three times in the best pop duo/group performance category as well as album of the year (for their contributions to Coldplay's "Music of the Spheres") and best music video for "Yet to Come."

In fact, no K-pop act had ever won a Grammy before this year, when "Golden" from the Netflix animated film "KPop Demon Hunters" took home the trophy for best song for visual media. It capped a highly visible night for K-pop at the Grammys — an institution where the genre has long been undercelebrated despite its massive international following.

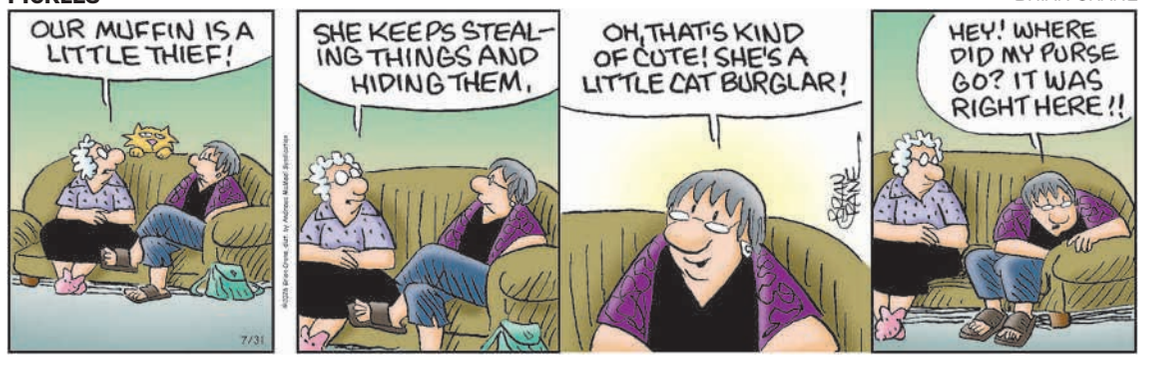
CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION/AP

Harvey Mason Jr., CEO of the Recording Academy, during the 68th annual Grammy Awards on Feb. 1 in Los Angeles. No K-pop act had ever won a Grammy before this year.

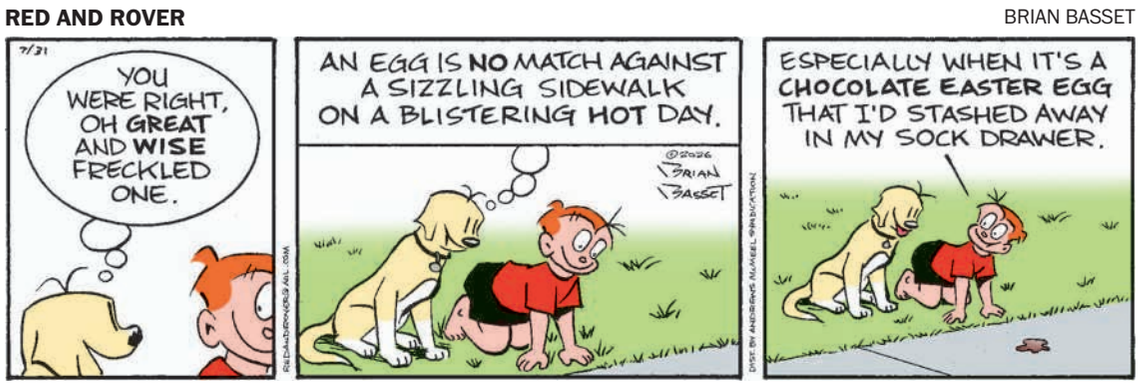
CLASSIC DOONESBURY GARRY TRUDEAU


YOU ARE GOOD TO COME, YOUNG SHREDDER. THE ACCESSWAY COMMUNITY WILL BE BLOWN AWAY!
I WOULDN'T MISS THIS FOR THE WORLD, MASTER. ALTHOUGH TRUTHFULLY, I'M FEELING A BIT GUILTY ABOUT BEING HERE.
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE HELPING SUPPORT THE FAMILY NOW. INSTEAD I QUIT MY JOB AND FLEW OUT HERE FOR A BEACH PARTY.
YOU HAVE ACTED WISELY, SEAHORSE.
I KNOW, MASTER. AND YET I AM TROUBLED.

PICKLES BRIAN CRANE


OUR MUFFIN IS A LITTLE THIEF!
SHE KEEPS STEALING THINGS AND HIDING THEM.
OH, THAT'S KIND OF CUTE! SHE'S A LITTLE CAT BURGLAR!
HEY! WHERE DID MY PURSE GO? IT WAS RIGHT HERE!!

RED AND ROVER BRIAN BASSET


YOU WERE RIGHT, OH GREAT AND WISE FRECKLED ONE.
AN EGG IS NO MATCH AGAINST A SIZZLING SIDEWALK ON A BLISTERING HOT DAY.
ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S A CHOCOLATE EASTER EGG THAT I'D STASHED AWAY IN MY SOCK DRAWER.

AGNES TONY COCHRAN

AGNES, YOU SEEM VERY DISTRACTED.
TRUE... I CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON WHATEVER IT IS YOU ARE HARPING ON AND ON ABOUT!
I'M NOT "HARPING" ABOUT ANYTHING. YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO BE READING QUIETLY TO YOURSELVES.
OH... THEN IT'S THIS DRY TEXT YOU CHOSE FOR US... IT IS IMPOSSIBLY TEDIOUS!
THE BOOK WAS ONE YOU SELECTED.
OH... THEN WHY WAS I NOT COACHED TO MAKE BETTER CHOICES?

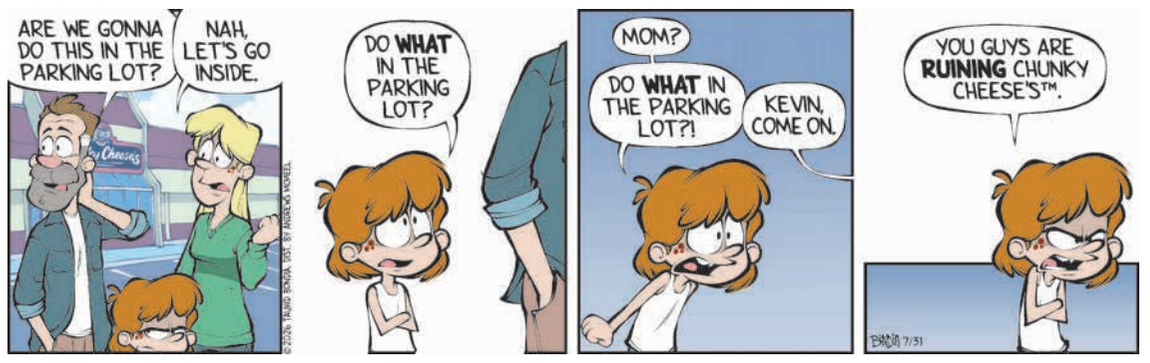
FRANK AND ERNEST TOM THAVES

WUMO MIKAEL WULFF & ANDERS MORGENTHALER

CLASSIC PEANUTS CHARLES SCHULZ

I KEPT MY PROMISE, DIDN'T I? I DIDN'T PULL THE BALL AWAY
NO, YOU'RE RIGHT... YOU DIDN'T
BUT I MISSED THE BALL, AND KICKED YOUR HAND... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?
NEXT TIME YOU GO TO THE HOSPITAL, STAY THERE!

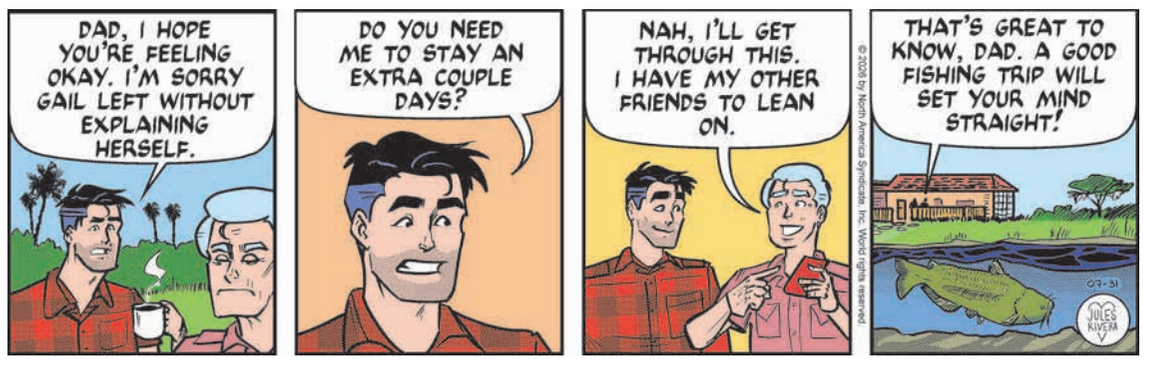
CRABGRASS TAUHID BONDIA


ARE WE GONNA DO THIS IN THE PARKING LOT?
NAH, LET'S GO INSIDE.
DO WHAT IN THE PARKING LOT?
MOM?
DO WHAT IN THE PARKING LOT?!
KEVIN, COME ON.
YOU GUYS ARE RUINING CHUNKY CHEESE'S™.

RHYMES WITH ORANGE HILARY PRICE

TOURISTS
I've met my fitness goal for the day. Let's go eat.
THE STEP PYRAMID
THIS IS GREAT FOR THE GLUTES AND THE QUADRICEPS, BUT WHAT DID THE MAYANS BUILD FOR UPPER BODY?

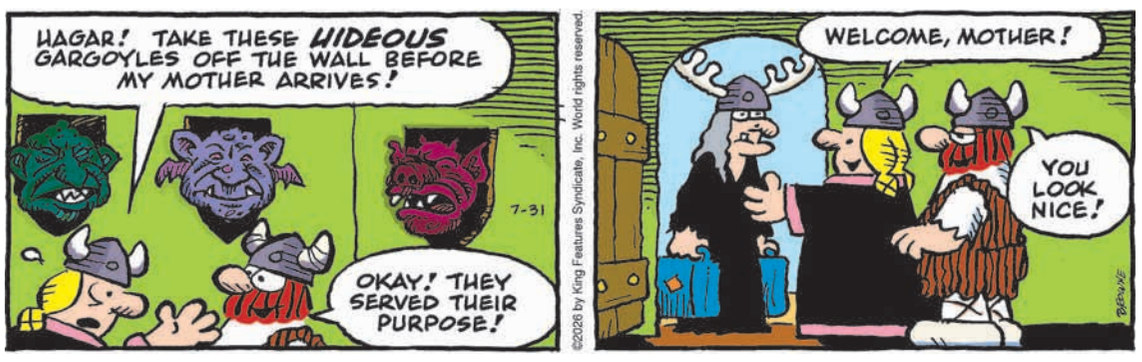
MARK TRAIL JULES RIVERA


DAD, I HOPE YOU'RE FEELING OKAY. I'M SORRY GAIL LEFT WITHOUT EXPLAINING HERSELF.
DO YOU NEED ME TO STAY AN EXTRA COUPLE DAYS?
NAH, I'LL GET THROUGH THIS. I HAVE MY OTHER FRIENDS TO LEAN ON.
THAT'S GREAT TO KNOW, DAD. A GOOD FISHING TRIP WILL SET YOUR MIND STRAIGHT!

LIO MARK TATULLI

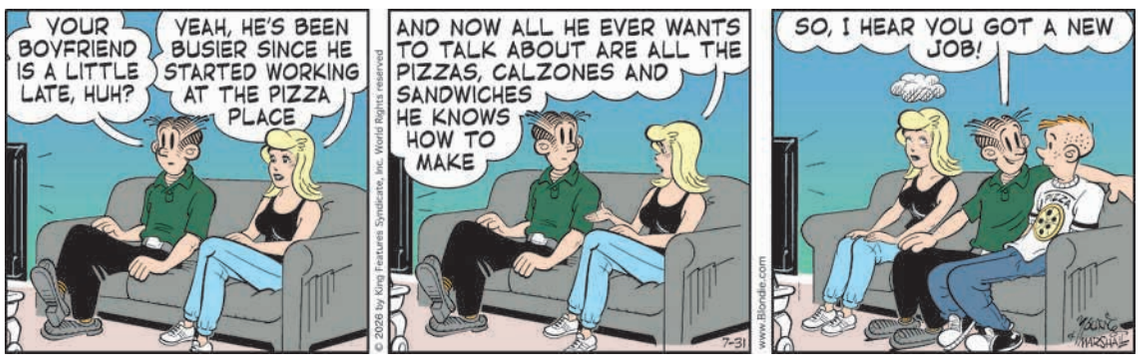
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM MIKE PETERS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE CHRIS BROWNE


HAGAR! TAKE THESE HIDEOUS GARGOYLES OFF THE WALL BEFORE MY MOTHER ARRIVES!
OKAY! THEY SERVED THEIR PURPOSE!
WELCOME, MOTHER!
YOU LOOK NICE!

BALDO HECTOR CANTU & CARLOS CASTELLANOS

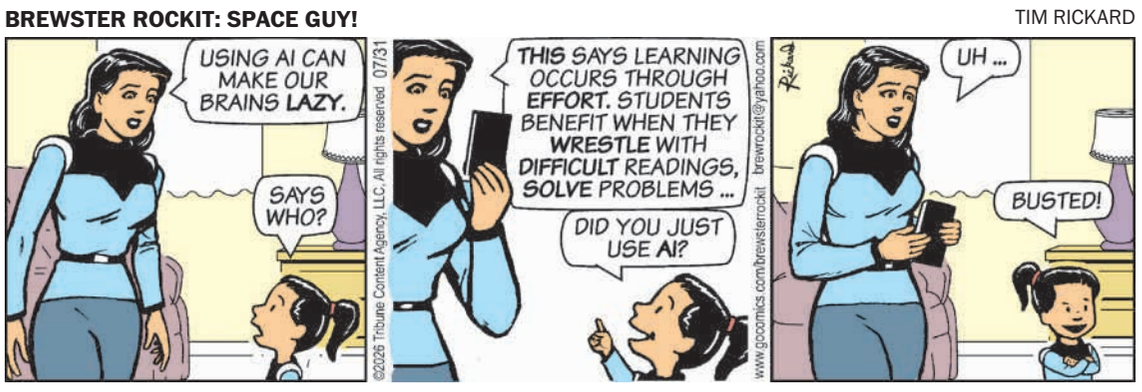
BLONDIE DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL


YOUR BOYFRIEND IS A LITTLE LATE, HUH?
YEAH, HE'S BEEN BUSIER SINCE HE STARTED WORKING AT THE PIZZA PLACE
AND NOW ALL HE EVER WANTS TO TALK ABOUT ARE ALL THE PIZZAS, CALZONES AND SANDWICHES HE KNOWS HOW TO MAKE
SO, I HEAR YOU GOT A NEW JOB!

SALLY FORTH FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE

AUNT KATHERINE, PROMISE ME WHEN YOU GET BACK HOME YOU'LL CALL MY MOM. THAT YOU TWO WILL TRY TO PATCH THINGS UP.
I WILL.
I'M SERIOUS. REALLY PROMISE ME.
I WILL...WAIT, WHY ARE YOU DISAPPEARING? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
I THINK YOUR PROMISE MEANS OUR TIME HERE IS DONE.

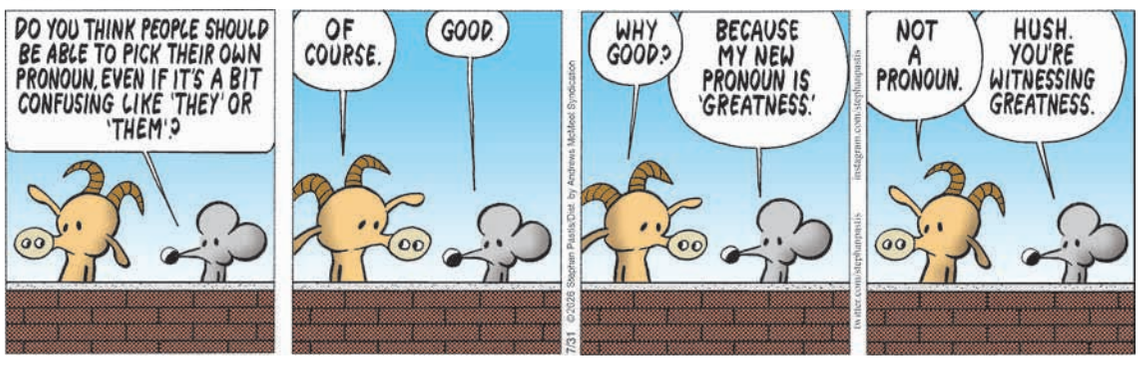
BREWSTER ROCKIT: SPACE GUY! TIM RICKARD


USING AI CAN MAKE OUR BRAINS LAZY.
SAYS WHO?
THIS SAYS LEARNING OCCURS THROUGH EFFORT. STUDENTS BENEFIT WHEN THEY WRESTLE WITH DIFFICULT READINGS, SOLVE PROBLEMS ...
DID YOU JUST USE AI?
UH ...
BUSTED!

SHERMAN'S LAGOON JIM TOOMEY

HERMAN, I'M SORRY I ATE YOUR SOCCER COACH. I WANT TO MAKE IT RIGHT.
HOW?
I'M GOING TO COACH THE TEAM.
YOU?
I'VE BEEN UP ALL NIGHT PREPPING.
REALLY? WHAT HAVE YOU GOT FOR US?
A WHISTLE AND A CLIPBOARD.
BABY STEPS.

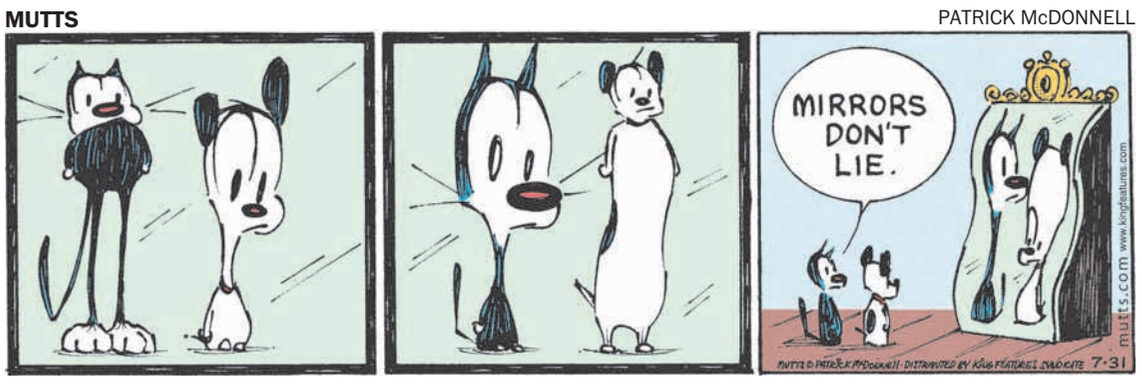
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE STEPHAN PASTIS


DO YOU THINK PEOPLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PICK THEIR OWN PRONOUN, EVEN IF IT'S A BIT CONFUSING LIKE 'THEY' OR 'THEM'?
OF COURSE.
GOOD.
WHY GOOD?
BECAUSE MY NEW PRONOUN IS 'GREATNESS.'
NOT A PRONOUN.
HUSH. YOU'RE WITNESSING GREATNESS.

CURTIS RAY BILLINGSLEY

MY MIDDLE NAME IS WESLEY, BARRY'S MIDDLE NAME IS TAYLOR...
AND YOURS IS EDWARD!
COOL
VERY
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE SURPRISED, CURTIS. I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE! SHOWS HOW MUCH YOU LISTEN!
GREGORY "EDDIE" WILKINS
EDWARD!

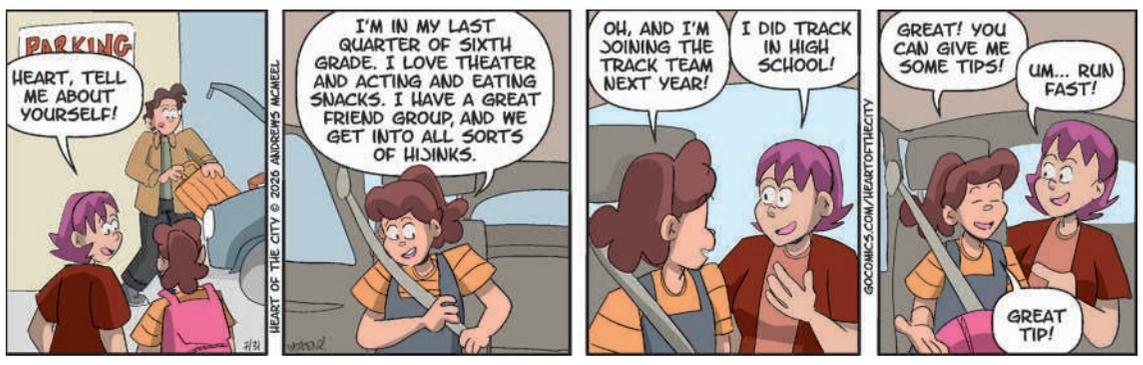
MUTTS PATRICK McDONNELL



ZITS JERRY SCOTT & JIM BORGMAN

JEREMY, YOUR DAD AND I THINK YOU SHOULD APPLY FOR THAT JOB AT PIPKIN'S.
GROAN!
IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU TO WORK ON WEEKENDS.
BUT THAT'S MY ME-TIME!
THEN WHAT ABOUT AFTER SCHOOL?
THAT'S MY PRE-ME-TIME.

HEART OF THE CITY STEENZ


PARKING
HEART, TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF!
I'M IN MY LAST QUARTER OF SIXTH GRADE. I LOVE THEATER AND ACTING AND EATING SNACKS. I HAVE A GREAT FRIEND GROUP, AND WE GET INTO ALL SORTS OF HIJINKS.
OH, AND I'M JOINING THE TRACK TEAM NEXT YEAR!
I DID TRACK IN HIGH SCHOOL!
GREAT! YOU CAN GIVE ME SOME TIPS!
UM... RUN FAST!
GREAT TIP!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

JUDGE PARKER FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & MIKE MANLEY

LISTEN, THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO NEED MY HELP. PEOPLE I COULD BE HELPING RIGHT NOW INSTEAD OF TALKING ABOUT SOME SHOW---
I'M SORRY. I'M REALLY SORRY. BUT THE LONGER I STAY HERE THE MORE I KNOW I SHOULD BE SOMEWHERE ELSE.
MARCIULIANO + MANLEY 7/31
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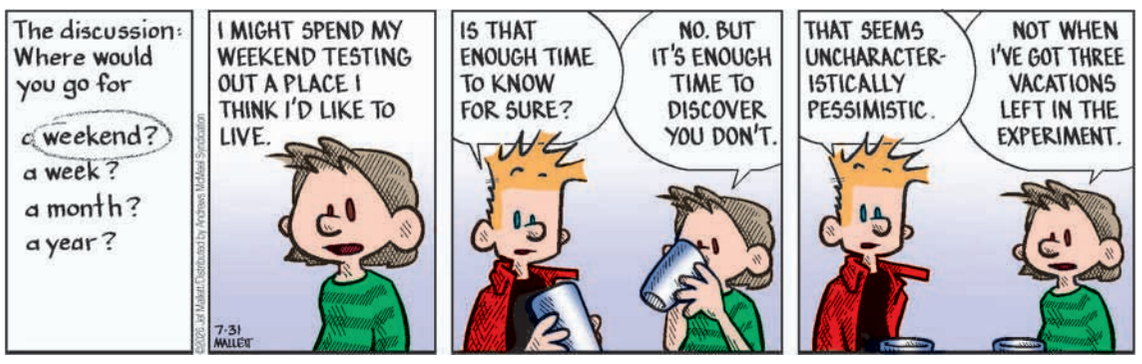
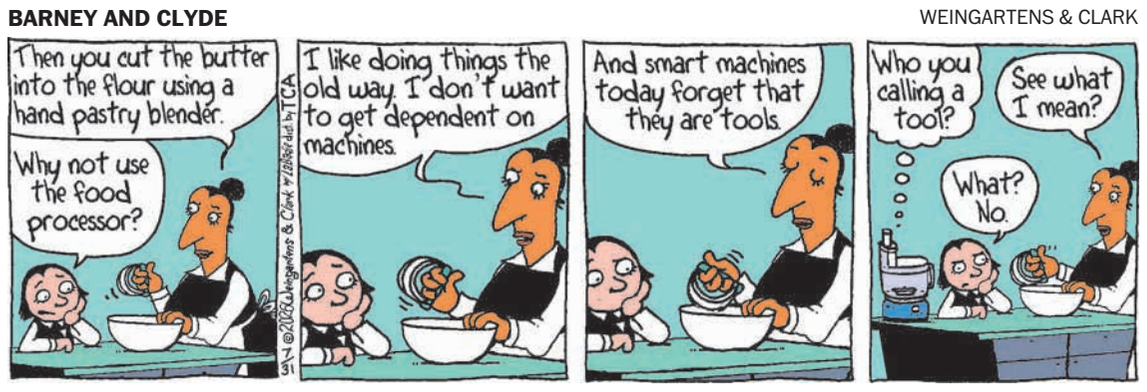
FRAZZ JEF MALLETT


The discussion: Where would you go for a weekend? a week? a month? a year?
I MIGHT SPEND MY WEEKEND TESTING OUT A PLACE I THINK I'D LIKE TO LIVE.
IS THAT ENOUGH TIME TO KNOW FOR SURE?
NO. BUT IT'S ENOUGH TIME TO DISCOVER YOU DON'T.
THAT SEEMS UNCHARACTERISTICALLY PESSIMISTIC.
NOT WHEN I'VE GOT THREE VACATIONS LEFT IN THE EXPERIMENT.
7·31 MALLETT

SIX CHIX BANNERMAN, XUNISE, KONAR, LAWTON, PATRINOS & PIRO

GARFIELD JIM DAVIS

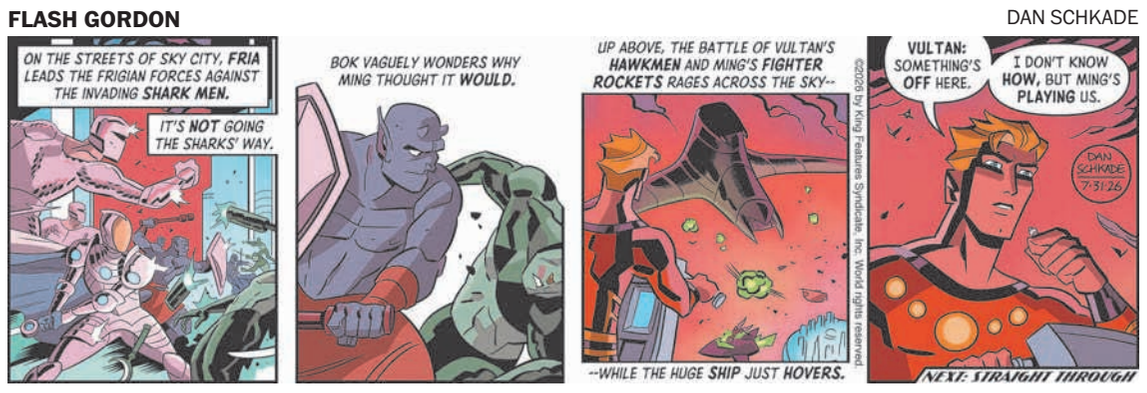
BARNEY AND CLYDE WEINGARTENS & CLARK


Then you cut the butter into the flour using a hand pastry blender.
Why not use the food processor?
I like doing things the old way. I don't want to get dependent on machines.
And smart machines today forget that they are tools.
Who you calling a tool?
See what I mean?
What? No.
© 2026 Weingartens & Clark Dist. by TCA

DUSTIN STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER

HI THERE. I'M DUSTIN. THIS MAY SOUND CRAZY...
...BUT I FEEL LIKE WE MIGHT HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER IN A PREVIOUS LIFETIME.
THAT COULD BE... BUT I THINK IN THIS LIFETIME WE SHOULD SEE OTHER PEOPLE.
dustincomics.com
©2026 Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

FLASH GORDON DAN SCHKADE


ON THE STREETS OF SKY CITY, FRIA LEADS THE FRIGIAN FORCES AGAINST THE INVADING SHARK MEN.
IT'S NOT GOING THE SHARKS' WAY.
BOK VAGUELY WONDERS WHY MING THOUGHT IT WOULD.
UP ABOVE, THE BATTLE OF VULTAN'S HAWKMEN AND MING'S FIGHTER ROCKETS RAGES ACROSS THE SKY--
--WHILE THE HUGE SHIP JUST HOVERS.
VULTAN: SOMETHING'S OFF HERE.
I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT MING'S PLAYING US.
DAN SCHKADE 7-31-26
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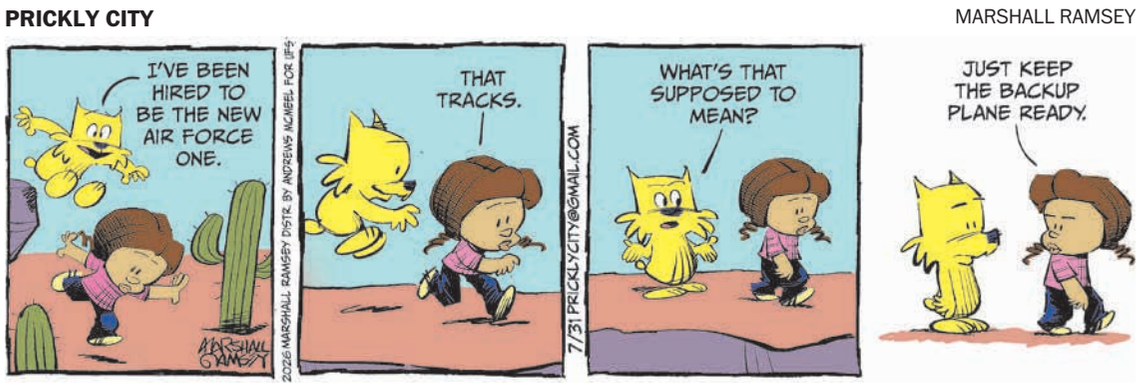
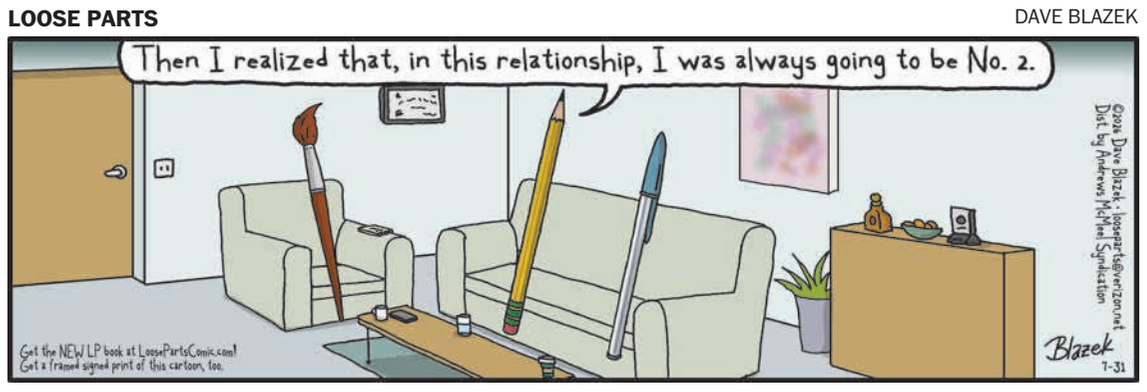
NEXT: STRAIGHT THROUGH

PRICKLY CITY MARSHALL RAMSEY

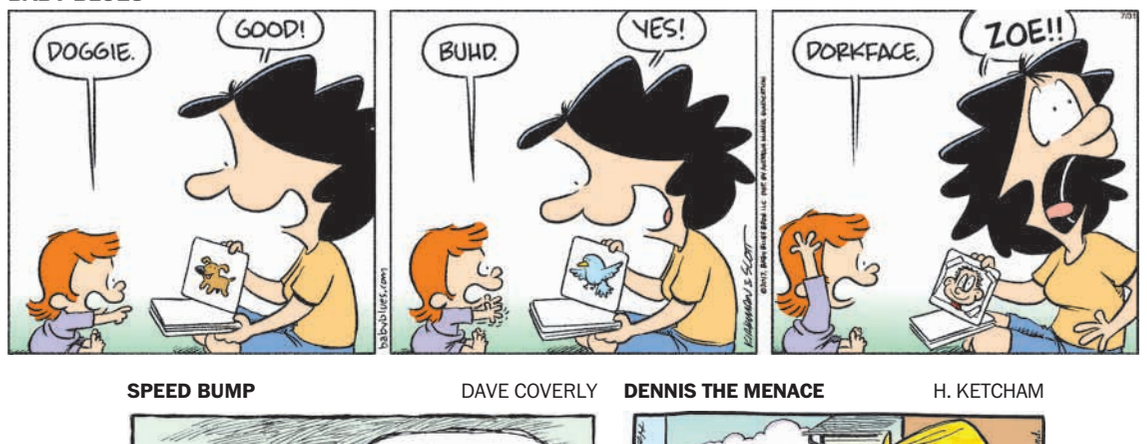

I'VE BEEN HIRED TO BE THE NEW AIR FORCE ONE.
THAT TRACKS.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
JUST KEEP THE BACKUP PLANE READY.
2026 MARSHALL RAMSEY DISTR. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL FOR UFS
7/31 PRICKLYCITY@GMAIL.COM

LOOSE PARTS DAVE BLAZEK

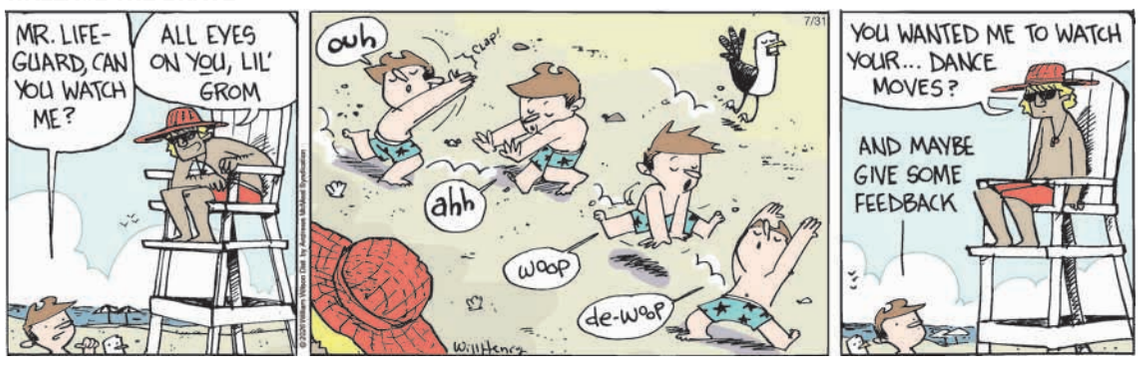

Then I realized that, in this relationship, I was always going to be No. 2.
©2026 Dave Blazek - loosepartsevertzon.net Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
Get the NEW LP book at LoosePartsComic.com! Get a framed signed print of this cartoon, too.
Blazek 7-31

NON SEQUITUR WILEY

BABY BLUES RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT

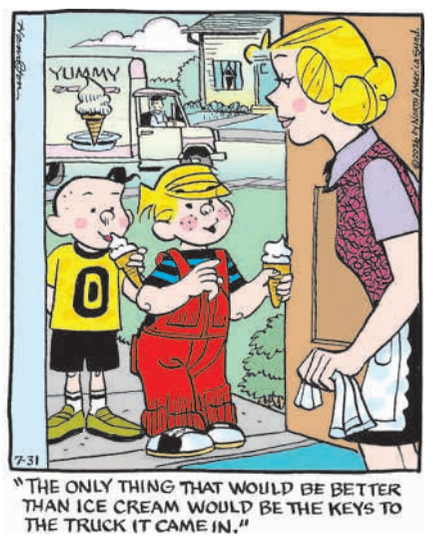


WALLACE THE BRAVE WILL HENRY



SPEED BUMP DAVE COVERLY

DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM



ON THE FASTRACK BILL HOLBROOK

PSSST!
SHE'S GOING TO CANCEL THAT TASK. GO WORK ON HIGHER PRIORITIES INSTEAD!
HOW DO YOU ENDURE HER SHIFTING DEMANDS?
I LISTEN TO MY VOICE OF EXPERIENCE.
POOF!
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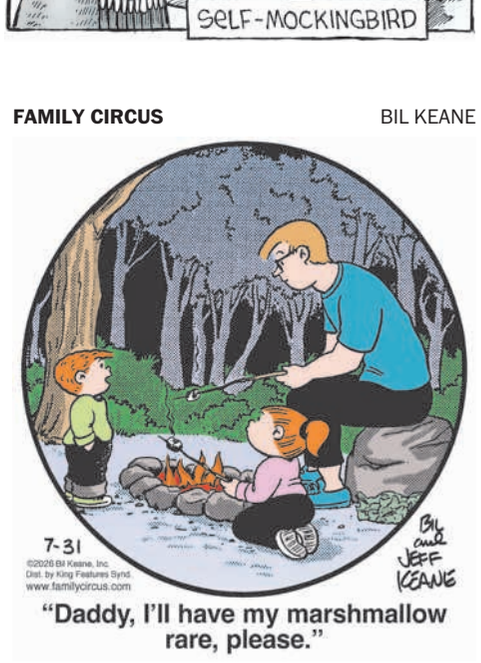
E-mail: bholbrook1@gmail.com

FAMILY CIRCUS BIL KEANE


7-31
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BIL and JEFF KEANE
"Daddy, I'll have my marshmallow rare, please."

REPLY ALL LITE DONNA A. LEWIS

If your thoughts start to wander, let them wander somewhere nice.
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www.replyallcomic.com
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7-31

BEETLE BAILEY GREG, BRIAN & NEAL WALKER

WHY DID YOU ENLIST?
I WAS HOMELESS, LIVING ON THE STREET
NOW I'M STILL SLEEPING IN A TENT!
GREG + MORT WALKER
7/31
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TELEVISION

7/31/26	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4.1 WRC (NBC)	♦ **NBCNe**..	♦ News4..	♦ America's Got Talent				♦ **Dateline NBC**		♦ **NEWS**..
4.2 WRC (IND)	King	King	King	King	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	George
5.1 WTTG (Fox)	♦ **MLB Baseball** Washington Nationals at Atlanta Braves (Live)						♦ **Nation**..	♦ **Fox 5**	♦ **Fox 5**
7.1 WJLA (ABC)	♦ Wheel	♦ Jeopardy!	♦ Celebrity Jeopardy!		♦ **20/20**				♦ **News**
9.1 WUSA (CBS)	♦ Inside	♦ **ET**	♦ Sheriff Country		♦ Fire Country		♦ Boston Blue		♦ **9 News**
14.1 WFDC (UNI)	♦ Rosa		♦ **Tan cerca**		♦ **Guardián de mi vida**		♦ **Corazón de oro**		♦ Noticias
20.1 WDCA (MNTV)	♦ Family	♦ Family	♦ **Fox 5 News**		♦ Family	♦ Family	♦ Chicago Fire		♦ Chicago
22.1 WMPT (PBS)	♦ State	♦ Artworks	♦ Inspector George Gently			♦ American Experience			
26.1 WETA (PBS)	♦ **PBS News Hour**		♦ **Week**	♦ Library	♦ American Experience				♦ **Amanp**..
32.1 WHUT (PBS)	♦ Opportun	♦ N'DIGO	♦ American Experience			♦ Movie: How the Monuments Ca...			♦ BBCNe..
50.1 WDCW (CW)	♦ Friends	♦ Friends	♦ Penn & Teller		♦ **Animals**	♦ **Animals**	♦ **DC News Now**		♦ Neighbor
66.1 WPXW (ION)	♦ **WNBA**	♦ **WNBA Basketball**				♦ **WNBA**..	♦ **WNBA Basketball**		
A&E	Killer Investigations		Killer Investigations		Killer Investigations		Killer Investigations		(:05) Killer
AMC	(6:45) Movie: The Beekeeper ★★ (2024)				(:15) Movie: Wrath of Man ★★ (2021) A security guard for a cash truck tries to settle a score.				
Animal Planet	Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse Masters		Treehouse
BET	(6:30) Movie: Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy ...				Movie: Nobody's Fool ★ (2018)				
Bravo	(:55) Movie: The Super Mario Bros. Movie ★★ (2023)				Movie: The Super Mario Bros. Movie ★★ (2023)				Movie: Croods: ...
Cartoon Network	Burgers	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick Morty	President
CNN	**E. B. OutFront** (Live)		**Cooper 360** (Live)		**The Source** (Live)		**CNN News.** (Live)		**Laura**
Comedy Central	The Office	(:35) Office	(:10) Office	(:45) Office	(:20) The Office		(:55) Office	Office	Movie
Discovery	What Shark		**Secrets of the**		**Sharkzilla Takes New**		**My Strange**		Jaw v Meg
Disney	(:15) Bluey		Movie: Elemental ★★ (2023)		(:45) Kiff		(:10) Kiff	(:35) Kiff	Ladybug
E!	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	How I Met
ESPN	**Professional Fighters League** PFL New York (Live)				**Banana Ball World Tour** Party Animals vs. Texas Tailgaters (Live)				**SportCtr** (Live)
ESPN2	NFL Live		Football	**Banana** (Live)	Cornhole		Life in the W	Life in the W	WWE
Food Network	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Kitchen	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	**Ingraham** (Live)		**Jesse Watters** (Live)		**Hannity** (Live)		**Gutfeld!**		**Fox News**
Freeform	(5:00) Movie: Spider-Man: Far From Home...		(:55) Movie: Spider-Man: No Way Home ★★★ (2021) Peter Parker discovers what it truly means to be Spider-Man.						The 700 Club
FX	(5:00) Movie: Iron Man 3 ★★★ (2013)		Movie: Avengers: Endgame ★★★ (2019) The Avengers prepare for an epic showdown with Thanos.						
Hallmark	(6:00) Movie: Love Under the Mistletoe (...		Movie: A Christmas Carousel (2020)				Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls
Hallmark M&M	(6:00) Movie: Flower Shop Mystery: Dearly...		Family Practice Mysteries				Murder, She Wrote		Murder ...
HBO	(:10) Movie: Dumb Money ★★★ (2023)				**Life, Larry and**	(:35) Life, Larry and	(:10) **Real Time With Bill Maher**		(:10) Life, Larry and
HGTV	DreamHo..	DreamHo..	DreamHo..	DreamHo..	**DreamHo**..	**Zillow**	**Roast My**	Hunters	Hunters
History	The UnXplained		The UnXplained		**The UnXplained**		(:05) **Mysteries**		Mysteries
Lifetime	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		(:05) NCIS		(:05) NCIS
MASN	**Baseball** Philadelphia Phillies at Baltimore Orioles (Live)					**O's Xtra**	Ballgame	SportsWrap	
Monumental	WNBA Basketball				Politics		nba Washington Wizards vs. Atlanta Hawks		
MSNBC	**The Weeknight** (Live)		**All in With Chr.** (Live)		**The Briefing** (Live)		**Last Word** (Live)		**The 11th**
MTV	Movie: Next Friday ★★ (2000)				Movie: Friday ★★★ (1995)				Movie
Nat'l Geographic	(6:50) Che..	(:50) Chris Hemsworth: A			Movie: **Time and Water** (2026)				(:55) Chris
Nickelodeon	Movie: Boss Baby 2: Family Business (2021)				Friends	Friends	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang
NWSN	**Vargas Report**		**Cuomo**		**On Balance**		**Katie Pavlich**		**JesseWeb**
Paramount	(6:00) Movie: The School of Rock ★★★ (2003)			(:35) Movie: We're the Millers ★★ (2013) A dealer goes to Mexico with a fake family to score drugs.					(:20) Movie: ...
Paramount+Sho	(6:05) Movie: The Foreigner ★★ (2017)		The Chi		Movie: The Dutchman (2025)			(:35) Movie: Flight ★★★ (2012)	
Syfy	Movie: Red 2 ★★ (2013) Retired operatives return to retrieve a lethal device.					Movie: The Mask ★★★ (1994) An ancient mask animates a drab bank clerk.			
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Movie: Road House (2024) (P)				(:20) Movie: Accountant (2016)		
TCM	(6:30) Movie: The Mouthpiece (1932)		Movie: Sweet Smell of Success ★★★ (1957) A press agent crosses the line to curry favor.				Movie: Touch of Evil ★★★★ (1958)		
TLC	90 Day Fiancé		**90 Day Fiancé**				**90 Day**	Last Resort	
TNT	(6:00) Movie: Rush Hour 2 ★★ (2001)		Movie: Rush Hour 3 ★ (2007) Carter and Lee battle Chinese gangsters in Paris.				Movie: Wonder Woman ★★★ (2017)		
Travel	The Dead Files		The Dead Files		The Dead Files		The Dead Files		Dead Files
TruTV	**Banana** Savannah Bananas vs. Firefighters				Movie: Moneyball ★★★ (2011)				
TV Land	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	(:20) Raymond		Raymond	Raymond	King
TV One	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..	CosbySh..
USA Network	Everything	Everything	**WWE Friday Night SmackDown** (Live)				**Everything**	**Everything**	Two Men
VH1	My Wife	My Wife	Movie: Maid in Manhattan ★★ (2002)					Movie: Breakin' All th...	
WNC8	Paid Prog.	Health	7News at..	Paid Prog.	**SportsTalk**	**WorldNe**..	**WJLANe**..	Natural	**National**

LEGEND: Bold indicates new or live programs ♦ High Definition
Movie Ratings (from TMS) ★★★★ Excellent ★★★ Good ★★ Fair ★ Poor No stars: not rated

SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

			1	3	8			4
						9		
		8		4				3
	6			1				9
	2	9		6		3	4	
4				8			5	
1				7		8		
		3						
2			3	5	6			

7/31

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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PREVIOUS SUDOKU SOLUTION

7	1	4	3	9	8	5	6	2
5	9	2	7	4	6	1	8	3
6	8	3	1	2	5	9	7	4
2	6	7	5	1	3	4	9	8
3	4	9	8	6	2	7	5	1
1	5	8	4	7	9	2	3	6
8	3	1	9	5	4	6	2	7
4	2	5	6	8	7	3	1	9
9	7	6	2	3	1	8	4	5

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SCRABBLEGRAMS

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A1 A1 E1 I1 V4 R1 C3	2nd Letter Double	RACK 1
A1 E1 O1 W4 K5 R1 G2		RACK 2
E1 E1 X8 R1 P3 L1 P3	Triple Word Score	RACK 3
A1 O1 U1 L1 S1 C3 L1		RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160 **FOUR RACK TOTAL**
BEST SCORE 243 **TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN**

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA - North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website - www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

07-31

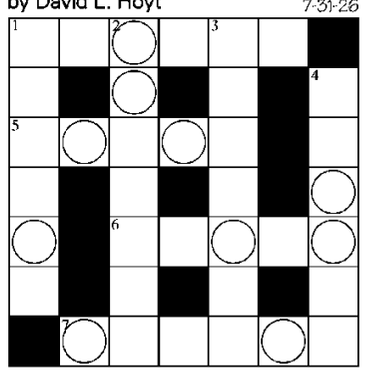
PREVIOUS SCRABBLEGRAMS SOLUTION

A1 U1 T1 O1 M3 A1 T1	RACK 1 = 59
B3 A1 C3 K5 L1 O1 T1	RACK 2 = 80
B3 A1 M3 B3 I1 N1 O1	RACK 3 = 69
C3 L1 E1 A1 V4 E1	RACK 4 = 11

PAR SCORE 150-160 TOTAL 219

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt 7-31-26



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Hindu festival	LDIWIA
5. Sister's daughter	ENCEI
6. Path	LARTI
7. Rarely	SDLEOM

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Peril	GNDREA
2. Grapple	ETSWRLE
3. ___ Islands	DLAEREW
4. Chaos	EAMBDL

CLUE: This author is buried in the famous Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.

BONUS

How to play Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

ANSWERS: 1A-Diwali 5A-Niece 6A-Trail 7A-Seldom 1D-Jangar 2D-Wrestle 3D-Leaward 4D-Beldam 5D-Oscar Wilde

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Send comments to DLHoyt@HoytInteractiveMedia.com

HOROSCOPE

BIRTHDAY | JULY 31: You're energetic, determined and focused. You love to learn, investigate and be involved. Your creativity and zest for life are at a pinnacle this year! Nurture the happiness and beauty that you have within. Let your guard down and loosen up a bit. Have fun but remember your goals.

Moon Alert: After 8:30 a.m. today there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Pisces.

ARIES
(March 21-April 19)
This might be a restless day for you. You have options to socialize and have fun, perhaps in the entertainment world, or with sports events or playful activities with kids. You're full of different ideas today, which might create detours and surprises for you.

TAURUS
(April 20-May 20)
This is a lovely day to socialize! However, expect to be surprised by someone. A friend or a member of a group might do something that catches you off guard. Alternatively, you might meet a real character today, or someone you already know might amaze you.

GEMINI
(May 21-June 20)
Tread carefully around authority figures today – parents, bosses, teachers, VIPs and the police – because something unexpected could happen. ("Busted!") To be on the safe side, give authority figures a wide berth. Meanwhile, relations with relatives, siblings and neighbors are rewarding.

CANCER
(June 21-July 22)
Sudden opportunities to travel might fall in your lap today. Alternatively, planned schedules and itineraries might suddenly change at the last minute. If this is a possibility for you, double-check all details to avoid unnecessary disappointments and glitches.

LEO
(July 23-Aug. 22)
Make friends with your bank account, because something related to shared property, inheritances and the resources you share with others might be subject to a sudden change today. Make sure you know what's going on. Meanwhile, competition with groups and friends might rev your engines!

VIRGO
(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Be prepared for something unexpected from a partner, spouse or close friend today. For some, this could relate to a parent or another authority figure. Basically, something unusual or a bit out of the ordinary might occur. They might make a suggestion that catches you off guard. Be ready.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Equipment breakdowns and technological glitches today might impact your work or even your health. Pet owners should be extra vigilant because something unpredictable could affect their pets. Keep your eyes open. Give yourself extra time so you have wiggle room for the unexpected.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Social plans are unpredictable today. You might receive an unexpected invitation. Or a planned event might be canceled or changed. Meanwhile, romance is full of surprises as well. Parents should be vigilant to avoid accidents with their kids.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Your home routine might be interrupted today. Small appliances might break down or a minor breakage could occur. Someone unexpected might appear at your door. Take a breath and cope with whatever is happening. It's nothing you can't handle.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Take extra precautions today, because this is a mildly accident-prone day for you. Be mindful and aware when walking, jogging or driving. On the upside, you might have some clever, genius-like ideas. It's easy for you to think outside the box. A little surprise might await you today.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Do whatever you can to protect your belongings from loss, theft and damage today. This could occur. On the upside, you might find some money. On the downside, you might lose some money. Things are unpredictable today when it comes to your assets and resources.

PISCES
(Feb. 19-March 20)
Today the Moon is in your sign; however, it is at odds with unpredictable Uranus, which might prompt you to jump to hasty conclusions. You might feel rebellious. Certainly, you want to be free to do your own thing. You have a strong craving for excitement and adventure, which means there's a strong likelihood that's precisely what you will find!

— Georgia Nicols

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BRIDGE

This week's deals have treated the "discovery play": a proactive effort to place the cards in one suit by attacking another.

To test yourself, cover today's East-West cards. Against your four spades, West leads the king of clubs, and you take the ace. You have a club and a heart to lose, so you must lose only one trump trick. How do you proceed? (Recall the auction.)

If the missing trumps break 2-2, you are safe; if a defender has A-J-10 or A-J-9, you are fated to go down. But if a defender has the singleton ace, you need to lead the first trump through him. Who has the ace?

A discovery play may help: Lead your king of hearts. When West takes the ace, you know East has the ace of trumps: If West had the K-Q of clubs and two aces, he would have opened the bidding. Ruff West's heart return, lead a diamond to dummy and return a trump.

If East had the ace of hearts, you would have to guess how to proceed in trumps; but to dig for information costs nothing.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold:
♠ J 10 9 ♥ A 8 7 3
♦ 8 5 ♣ K Q 9 4

Your partner opens one diamond, the next player overcalls one spade and you make a negative double. Your partner then bids two hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your double promised enough values to respond with length in hearts plus club length or diamond tolerance. Partner's two hearts is not a strength-showing "reverse:" He has only "raised" the suit your double promised. Pass. Game is unlikely.

N-S VULNERABLE

NORTH
♠ K 5 3 2
♥ J 9 6 2
♦ Q J 10
♣ 7 3

WEST (D)
♠ J 10 9
♥ A 8 7 3
♦ 8 5
♣ K Q 9 4

EAST
♠ A
♥ Q 10 5 4
♦ 9 7 4 2
♣ 8 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 8 7 6 4
♥ K
♦ A K 6 3
♣ A J 10

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
All Pass			

Opening lead — ♣ K

— Frank Stewart

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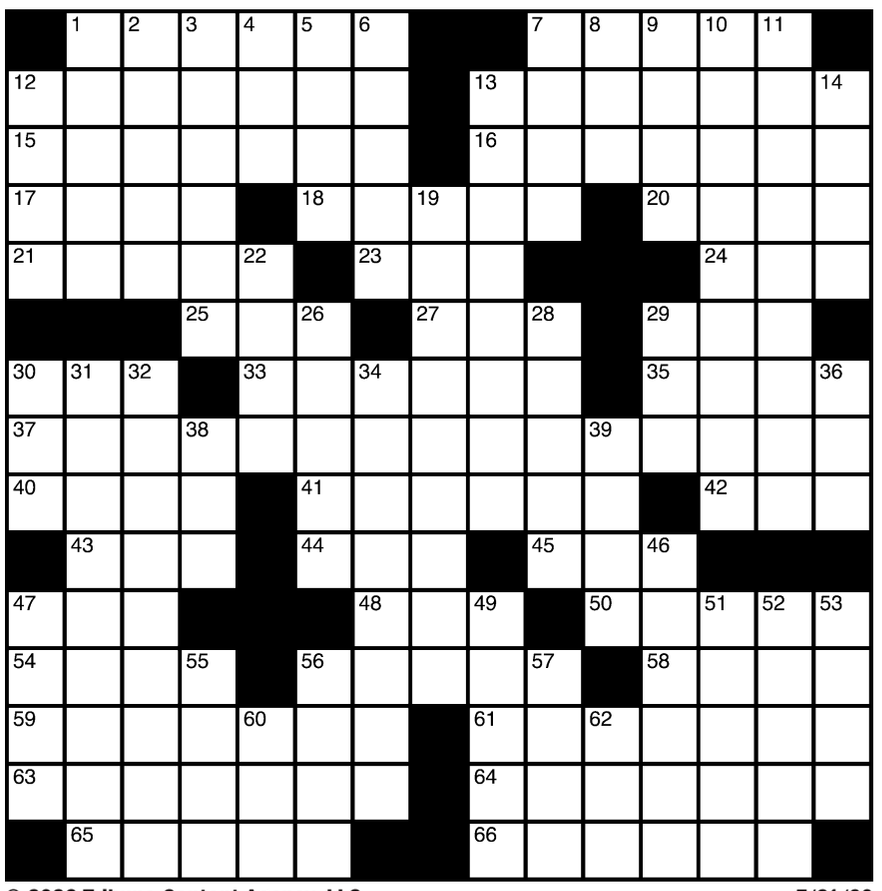
LA TIMES CROSSWORD

By Betsy Ochester & Andrew Gutelle



ACROSS

1 *Executive space with great views
7 *Area in Westminster Abbey where Chaucer is buried
12 Quaint term for "patella"
13 Supporting Mideast unity
15 Björk's country
16 Ferrera of "Ugly Betty"
17 Winnow
18 Simple shelters
20 Rat (on)
21 "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" novelist
23 Period
24 Albanian currency
25 "Tubular!"
27 Fire (up)
29 Texter's "Just a sec"
30 Atlanta-based health agcy.
33 String of dried chile peppers
35 Reign
37 Not far off, or where to look to make this puzzle's starred clues match their answers?
40 Jazz singer Sylvia
41 One on parental leave, perhaps
42 "A Boy Named __": Johnny Cash hit
43 Navy noncom
44 Simple shirt
45 Pained cry
47 Kung __ chicken
48 Trippy drug
50 Molten rock
54 Luxury hotel chain
56 Label again
58 Word
59 Wedding crasher's destination, perhaps
61 Pen pal's signoff
63 "House __": longtime HGTV series
64 "Airplane!" star Leslie
65 *Place to find a date?
66 *Stop sign locale

DOWN

1 At just the right moment
2 Senses
3 Hall of Fame pitcher Bob who won the World Series in 1948 with Cleveland
4 Bitter brew, briefly
5 Jargon
6 Over and done
7 Tennis player Shriver and actress Grier
8 Low digit
9 Merit
10 Dress rehearsals
11 French cry of surprise
12 *Scoring opportunity in soccer
13 Spoke rapidly
14 *Defensive player who's often the fastest on the football field
19 The Pacific __
22 Knitter's ball
26 Neglected to
28 Holiday, casually
29 Cool remark
30 __ in Charlie
31 College with an alcohol ban
32 Part
34 Pittsburgh team
36 Afore
38 GI show gp.
39 Leslie __ Jr. of "Hamilton"
46 Turkey appendage
47 *Eeyore's home
49 New beginnings
51 Gaggle birds
52 Mascot Hall of Fame inductee from Queens
53 *Challenging stretch at Augusta National
55 A fan of
56 Uncommon
57 Spunk
60 "Severance" director Stiller
62 Suffix with front or cash

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THURSDAY'S LA TIMES SOLUTION

T	E	S	S	A	■	R	E	P	■	S	E	D	A	N
A	T	E	O	F	■	E	M	U	■	E	N	E	R	O
C	H	E	V	R	O	L	E	T	M	A	L	I	B	U
T	I	T	I	■	P	E	R	S	E	■	I	C	O	N
■	C	H	E	W	I	N	G	I	T	O	V	E	R	■
■	S	E	T	I	■	T	E	N	■	N	E	S	S	■
■	■	■	S	S	T	■	■	■	A	Y	N	■	■	■
N	A	P	■	C	H	E	X	M	I	X	■	T	H	E
A	C	R	E	■	A	R	M	O	R	■	O	W	E	D
C	H	E	Y	E	N	N	E	W	Y	O	M	I	N	G
H	E	R	E	S	■	E	N	S	■	P	I	N	C	E
O	D	E	S	S	A	■	■	■	C	U	S	P	E	D
■	■	C	H	E	Z	P	A	N	I	S	S	E	■	■
W	H	O	A	■	T	U	G	O	N	■	I	A	M	S
H	A	R	D	■	E	M	E	N	D	■	O	K	R	A
O	L	D	E	■	C	A	S	E	Y	■	N	S	E	C

The Washington Post
SPORTS
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

PHOTOS BY HANNAH FOSLIEN/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Ball crew member Kuangkai Tai, 54, takes a towel from a player on the Grandstand Court during early-round play at the DC Open at Rock Creek Tennis Center.

A highly invisible role

At the DC Open, stealthy ball crew members help keep the tournament gears turning

BY NOAH WHITE

Kuangkai Tai waits. As the tennis pros bat and grunt back and forth, he stretches underneath the bleachers. A light squat, some lunges — anything to keep the 54-year-old limber and ready to perform.

"Advantage, set point," the umpire calls. The crowd hushes. Tai jumps, eagerly trotting toward the gate near the back of the DC Open grandstand. His hands grab the metal fence, leaning over to look toward the far baseline, where the serve draws from. The players exchange smacks, and Tai turns away, stepping to the side, closing his eyes.

Now he listens. His job is to disappear into the world around him. He's silent, motionless at nearly every glance.

But with the ceremonious roar of a game-ending point, his eyes open, and he takes off toward the ball.

Tennis tournaments can feel like a bubble of serenity, silence filling the space between the players and spectators for almost the entirety of matches. Fans in sundresses and slacks stroll as games play, fruity cocktails abound. The atmosphere can be, depending on the tournament, a bit posh.

The ball crew holds a special place in that snow globe of history and swank. Away from the trained eye, uniformed volunteers turn the gears of every match.

Tai holds a ball in his net position. Ball crew members train to be always close enough to respond to players' needs but never too close to become a distraction.

At the DC Open, they wear navy blue getups and white caps, and can be anywhere from 14 to 70, so long as they're capable of following a few rules. They're trained to avoid interactions with players and, for the most part, fans. They stand still, without reaction, in the corners of each court. The cardinal sin is making a mistake that disrupts play. If they execute their job — sprinting for balls between points and performing any other tasks a player may require, like holding towels and umbrellas — they receive no recognition.

Yet they're present everywhere. And they want to be. They had to fight to be.

"We try out for this," Tai says, "because

SEE DC OPEN ON B11

García has hot bat but Nats score no reward

BRAVES 5, NATIONALS 4

As trade winds swirl, Infielder rakes in defeat

BY DANIELLE ALLENTUCK

ATLANTA — Luis García Jr. knows what this weekend means. Even as he attempts not to pay attention, he understands that it could be his last in a Washington Nationals uniform, the only one he's ever worn in MLB. His name is circulating in trade rumors, and, with Monday's deadline quickly approaching, there is a chance the Nationals could move him.

Whether that happens depends largely how this four-game series against the Atlanta Braves plays out. A good showing will keep the Nationals in the hunt and help convince the front office not only to keep the team intact, but also to add pieces that can help them contend. A poor performance will push them further out of the playoff picture, perhaps persuading the team to trade players like García to acquire pieces who can help them in the future.

On Thursday, García did his

SEE NATIONALS ON B11

Nationals at Braves
7:15 p.m., WTTG (Ch. 5), Nationals.TV

UEFA vows to boycott World Cup in protest

European nations move in response to Infantino's private equity plan

BY GRAHAM DUNBAR
Associated Press

GENEVA — European nations agreed Thursday to boycott the World Cup and all other FIFA competitions to protest Gianni Infantino's plan to sell stakes in soccer's biggest tournament to private equity investors.

"UEFA and its national associations will not participate in FIFA competitions," the European soccer body said after an urgent online meeting of its 55 member nations.

The next scheduled FIFA tournament is within weeks in Europe — the Women's U-20 World Cup hosted by Poland from Sept. 5 — and the four British federations comprise FIFA's only bidder to host the 2035 Women's World Cup. That decision is due Nov. 23.

"Some things are simply too

SEE INFANTINO ON B12

Commanders betting big on McLaurin

Quinn & Co. are hoping for bounce-back season from team's top wideout

BY TASHAN REED

At least for now, the Washington Commanders are rolling with what they have at wide receiver. That's a massive bet on top wideout Terry McLaurin having a bounce-back campaign.

Nothing went as planned for McLaurin during an injury-plagued 2025 season. But he's healthy and has been a full participant throughout the offseason.

"It just feels like normal," McLaurin said Thursday. "Business is business and that was last year, but I've just been really excited to be a part of the whole process this year."

This season could dictate whether McLaurin and the Commanders have a future together. This is the last year with guaranteed money on his contract. According to the database Over the Cap, McLaurin is set to have a salary cap hit of $34 million in 2027. While the Commanders could carry that full amount, it would be more prudent to extend McLaurin or restructure his contract. If his durability remains an issue, it may be difficult for Washington to make that commitment.

When he's healthy, however, McLaurin is a known commodity. He's a legit No. 1 wide receiver capable of playing at an all-pro level. The question looming over the Commanders is whether that'll be enough to lift a wide receiving corps that's lacking, at least on paper.

Between Luke McCaffrey, Jaylin Lane and Antonio Williams, the Commanders will need some of their recent draft picks to pay dividends. The burden ultimately falls on the coaching staff to get the wide receiver room ready, of course, but McLaurin has been giving them an assist. He has spent extra time on the practice field and in meetings coaching the young wide receivers during organized team activities and training camp.

That's not new for McLaurin, who will turn 31 in September. He's confident his mentorship will help render results for the group.

"I've tried to always bring young guys under my wings," McLaurin said. "I've been fortunate to have young guys who are curious. I'm an open book. ... I just know the importance of passing [on] that information. All of them

SEE COMMANDERS ON B9

JOHN MCDONNELL/AP

Wide receiver Terry McLaurin is expected to carry the load for a unit that is lacking in experience.

THE DAY IN SPORTS

GOLF

Thitikul seizes lead at Women's British Open

Jeeno Thitikul took the first step toward the missing prize of her career Thursday when she opened with a 7-under-par 64 at Royal Lytham & St. Annes for a two-shot lead over **Haeran Ryu** and **Shiho Kuwaki** of Japan in the Women's British Open.

Thitikul, one of only two players to have been No. 1 in women's world ranking without ever having won a major, made three straight birdies early in her afternoon round and kept bogeys off her card the rest of the way at Lytham St. Annes, England.

The 23-year-old Thai has been overlooked during the LPGA major season dominated by Ryu and **Nelly Korda**, who have split the four majors. Korda, who replaced Thitikul at No. 1 in April, won the first two majors and Ryu won the next two.

Ryu put herself in good position to make it three in a row — not since **Inbee Park** in 2013 has anyone claimed three straight majors — with two birdies on her last three holes for a 66. She won the Women's PGA at Hazeltine and closed with 60 to win the Evian Championship.

Korda has work to do. The dominant player through the first week of June, the American star missed the cut at Evian Championship in the most recent major, and she couldn't atone for four bogeys in a pedestrian round of 73. ...

Peter Malnati, who has missed more cuts than he has made on the PGA Tour this season, shot a career-best 9-under 61 to tie a tournament record in the first round of the final Rocket Classic, giving him a two-shot lead in Detroit.

Rickie Fowler and R**yan Gerard** shot 63s, putting them two shots back and one stroke ahead of **Patrick Cantlay** and **Patrick Fishburn**.

The PGA Tour is moving to a new model for 2028, effectively creating two tours and Detroit organizers are taking an exit. The Rocket Classic wasn't interested in continuing to spend $15 million a year to be part of the second tier and didn't want to double the costs to be part of the elite tier.

The Rocket Classic and next week's Wyndham Championship are the last two tournaments left before the top 70 advances to the FedEx Cup postseason.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Cruz insists $48M cap would be hard ceiling

One key difference between Senate negotiators and the conferences still holding out on proposed legislation to regulate college sports is whether language in the bill would truly create a "hard salary cap" that would eliminate many third-party payments that have sent roster costs skyrocketing.

Sen. **Ted Cruz** (R-Texas), the chair of the Senate Commerce Committee and co-sponsor of the bill, sent out a social media post that said "The cap is a hard cap. Full stop. That loophole is closed."

But the refusal by the Big Ten and SEC to sign off on changes to the Protect College Sports Act during a frenzied week of negotiating is a sign that they do not agree with Cruz's assessment and would like to see stronger language in the bill.

The Senate broke for the weekend late Thursday without taking action on the bill. It goes on vacation next Friday and the likelihood of the bill reaching a vote before then has grown slim.

One of the key concessions made over the past week was the addition of an up to $27.5 million (up from $25 million) "retention pool" that could be used to keep players on rosters. It would be added to the $21.3 million salary cap already in place to make the new number $48.8 million. ...

North Carolina Coach **Bill Belichick** opened his second preseason camp saying the program is adjusting internal duties with General Manager **Michael Lombardi** on paid administrative leave and the subject of a school investigation.

"We're working through some things," Belichick said before the morning's first official practice.

The school announced Monday that Lombardi had been placed on leave but didn't provide details as to the reason, noting that employees and athletes aren't permitted to address the topic "as is standard procedure with personnel matters." About 30 minutes before Belichick spoke to reporters, UNC released another statement that said its Office of University Counsel was conducting an investigation.

North Carolina is looking to rebound after a 4-8 season last year during its first campaign under Belichik, who won six Super Bowl championships as coach of the New England Patriots.

MATT LUDTKE/AP

Packers love

Green Bay Packers quarterback Jordan Love gives a young fan a lift as he rides a bike on his way to practice Thursday.

SPOTLIGHT: WNBA

Bueckers, Reese won't be disciplined for bet

BY DOUG FEINBERG

NEW YORK — A social media post showing stars Paige Bueckers and Angel Reese betting $400 on the outcome of a game between their teams "missed the mark," the WNBA said Thursday.

The players won't be punished for the bet, a person with direct knowledge of the matter told the Associated Press. The person spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

The league posted the initial video from All-Star Weekend, days before Bueckers's Dallas Wings and Reese's Atlanta Dream were set to play Wednesday night. The clip featured Bueckers and Reese placing what appeared to be a personal wager on the game. It was presented with the caption, "We did?" with a laughing emoji followed by, "Paige Bueckers on the bet she made with Angel Reese at All-Star Weekend on tonight's matchup."

> League says since-deleted video of stars placing wager on game 'missed the mark'

The WNBA moved quickly to delete the message, but not before it was shared on social media.

"While the social media post was intended to be lighthearted, WNBA players are well aware of the league's policies prohibiting betting on WNBA games and receive training every year reinforcing those policies," a league spokesperson said Thursday. "We recognized that the post missed the mark, removed it shortly after it was published, and addressed the matter internally.

"We will also use this as an opportunity to reemphasize with the players involved that conversations about wagering on WNBA games, even when intended as a joke, can have negative consequences."

The Wings and the Dream both deferred to the league statement when asked for comment.

The league's collective bargaining agreement states that any kind of wagering is strictly prohibited and that players can be fined, suspended or even disqualified from the WNBA at the sole discretion of the commissioner.

The Dream rallied from a 15-point deficit to beat the Wings, 82-81, on Wednesday, with Reese notching 22 points and 12 rebounds and Bueckers finishing with 16 points and six assists.

— Associated Press

TELEVISION AND RADIO

MLB

2:15 p.m.	**New York Yankees at Chicago Cubs** » MLB Network
7 p.m.	**St. Louis at Toronto** » MLB Network
7:05 p.m.	**Philadelphia at Baltimore** » MASN, WIYY (97.9 FM), WSBN (630 AM)
7:15 p.m.	**Washington at Atlanta** » WTTG (Ch. 5), Nationals.TV, WJFK (106.7 FM)
8:15 p.m.	**Texas at Houston** » Apple TV
9:45 p.m.	**San Francisco at San Diego** » Apple TV
10 p.m.	**Milwaukee at Los Angeles Angels** » MLB Network (joined in progress)

WNBA

7:30 p.m.	**Dallas at Washington** » Ion
10 p.m.	**Indiana at Portland** » Ion

GOLF

8 a.m.	**Women's British Open, second round** » USA Network
9 a.m.	**PGA Tour Champions: Portugal Invitational, first round** » Golf Channel
3 p.m.	**PGA Tour: Rocket Classic, second round** » Golf Channel
6 p.m.	**Korn Ferry Tour: Utah Championship, second round** » Golf Channel

SOCCER

3 p.m.	**Scottish Premiership: Rangers at Dundee United** » CBS Sports Network
8 p.m.	**NWSL: Orlando at North Carolina** » Prime Video
10 p.m.	**Concacaf u-20 Championship, group stage: Cuba vs. United States** » Fox Sports 1
11 p.m.	**Mexican Liga MX: Pumas UNAM at Juárez** » Fox Sports 2

TENNIS

Noon	**ATP/WTA: DC Open, quarterfinals** » Tennis Channel
11 p.m.	**ATP: Mifel Tennis Open, quarterfinals** » Tennis Channel

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL

7:30 p.m.	**Canadian Football League: Montreal at Ottawa** » CBS Sports Network

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

7 p.m.	**Professional Fighters League, New York: Usman Nurmagomedov vs. Archie Colgan** » ESPN

BASEBALL

7 p.m.	**Banana Ball: Savannah Bananas vs. Firefighters** » TruTV
9 p.m.	**Banana Ball: Texas Tailgaters vs. Party Animals** » ESPN

Storm co-owner given a five-game ban, fine

Seattle Storm co-owner **Celeste Keaton** was fined an undisclosed amount and suspended from attending the team's next five home games, the WNBA confirmed.

The suspension came a day after the team apologized for an exchange that took place between one of its co-owners and two fans during the team's 105-95 loss Tuesday night to the Indiana Fever. The Storm didn't elaborate on the nature of the incident and didn't say which Storm co-owner was involved.

But on Thursday the team said it respects the league's decision to fine and suspend Keaton.

"We remain committed to creating a welcoming and respectful environment for anyone who attends a Storm game," the team said.

The incident occurred Tuesday night during an evening that began with a demonstration outside Climate Pledge Arena. The team didn't say if the exchange was related to the protest.

Ahead of the game, a crowd of a few dozen gathered to both support Fever guard **Sophie Cunningham** and to promote a statewide ballot initiative, IL26-638, that would bar transgender students from participating in girls' athletics at Washington schools. Some members of the group carried signs in support of Cunningham or wore T-shirts depicting the XX and XY chromosomes. Some of them were also inside the arena during the game.

Cunningham voiced support for barring transgender girls and women from girls' and women's sports in an ESPN article published last week. ...

Napheesa Collier, **Olivia Miles** and **Courtney Williams** each scored 16 points and the Minnesota Lynx beat the host Toronto Tempo, 104-72,for their ninth straight victory.

The WNBA-leading Lynx are 24-6.

Laura Juskaite led the expansion Tempo (10-18) with 19 points. **Marina Mabrey** added 16. ...

Kamilla Cardoso scored 26 points to lead the host Chicago Sky to a 94-88 victory over the Connecticut Sun.

Chicago raised its record to 10-18 while the Sun, which was led by **Aneesah Morrow**'s 21 points, fell to 7-22.

HOCKEY

Russian teams remain banned from events

The International Ice Hockey Federation said that Russia will not be allowed to participate in four tournaments next year after a review by the organization's council.

The IIHF cited ongoing safety, security and sporting integrity concerns in its announcement. The sport's governing body said in May it would determine Russia's eligibility on a case-by-case basis .

Russia will be barred from the 2027 world junior championships, world championships and the under-18 men's and women's tournaments, the IIHF said, adding that a decision on the women's worlds would be made in November.

Teams from the country have been banned from competition since launching its war in Ukraine in February 2022. ...

Cara Gardner Morey is filling the Vancouver Goldeneyes' head-coaching vacancy while at the same time relinquishing her duties as the team's general manager, the Professional Women's Hockey League announced.

Ultimately, Gardner Morey, 47, decided she preferred a return to coaching after spending last year building the franchise in its inaugural season. She previously spent 14 seasons as head coach of Princeton's women's hockey team.

SOCCER

England ups penalties for discriminatory acts

Discriminatory behavior in English soccer could be punished with at least 10-game suspensions.

The Football Association confirmed plans to strengthen sanctions on incidents involving race, religion and sexual orientation.

Under new guidelines, regulatory commissions will be required to impose a suspension of at least 10 matches in cases that are considered "aggravated breaches" of misconduct. ...

Chelsea completed the signing of **Maxence Lacroix** from Crystal Palace for a reported fee of 52 million pounds ($70 million).

The France international agreed to a contract until 2032 and is the latest major arrival during this window after the signing of **Morgan Rogers** and **Marco Palestra**.

Center back Lacroix had just returned from the World Cup with France. He established himself as one of the best defenders in the Premier League with Palace, where he won the UEFA Conference League, FA Cup and Community Shield. ...

England defender **John Stones** joined Serie A champion Inter Milan after a decade and numerous titles at Manchester City.

Stones, 32, who was a free agent after his City contract expired at the end of June, has signed a two-year deal with Inter worth a reported $4 million euros ($4.6 million) a season. ...

Roma, preparing for its first Champions League campaign in eight seasons, made a change at center forward.

The club signed S**antiago Castro** from Bologna for a reported fee of 35 million euros ($40 million).

It was a swap deal with **Artem Dovbyk** leaving Roma for Bologna.

Castro, 21, scored 22 goals in 105 games across all competitions in three seasons at Bologna.

MISC.

Women's baseball league lands TV deals

The Women's Pro Baseball League has secured a media rights deal with ESPN and the Scripps Sports Network to air regular season and postseason games in its inaugural campaign, the league announced ahead of its debut on Saturday.

ESPN will be the U.S. distributor for all regular season and playoff games, while the Scripps Sports Network will broadcast a select slate of regular season games. ESPN will stream 19 regular season and postseason games in the U.S., with 11 games simulcast on Scripps Sports Network.

The league has four teams — New York, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco — for its first year, and the 15 regular season games for each club and the playoffs will be held at Robin Roberts Stadium in Springfield, Illinois.

The WPBL's opening weekend will feature a game Saturday between the New York Heights — which includes Team USA's **Denae Benites** and **Kylee Lahners** — and the Los Angeles Queens, whose lineup boasts former little league star **Mo'ne Davis** and veteran Japanese pitcher **Ayami Sato**. On Sunday, the WPBL's No. 1 overall pick, pitcher **Kelsie Whitmore** of the San Francisco Firebells, will face the Boston Hunters, who have Canadian National team star **Alli Schroder** on their roster. ...

Seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion **Jimmie Johnson** is adding some big-time winners to his race team.

Johnson announced a strategic ownership group for Legacy Motor Club that includes championship athletes, Grammy Award winners, entrepreneurs, investors, motorsport greats and cultural leaders. Johnson remains the team's majority owner.

The Legacy investors include six-time IndyCar champion **Scott Dixon**, four-time IndyCar champion **Dario Franchitti**, two-time National League MVP **Bryce Harper**, Indianapolis 500 winner **Tony Kanaan**, former U.S. Open champion **Andy Roddick**, 11-time surfing world champion **Kelly Slater** and six-time MLB all-star **Chase Utley**.

The group also includes three-time Grammy Award winner **Darius Rucker**, Emmy Award-winning chef **Guy Fieri**, Amway co-founder **Jen Rubio** and CrossHarbor Capital co-founder **Sam Byrne**.

Johnson and Knighthead Capital Management co-own Legacy, which fields two full-time cars in the Cup Series. **Erik Jones** and **ohn Hunter** Nemechek drive for Legacy.

— From news services

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL NOTES

Saints wideout Olave agrees to a four-year extension worth up to $132 million

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The New Orleans Saints and top wide receiver Chris Olave agreed on a four-year contract extension worth up to $132 million.

The Saints announced the extension Thursday without disclosing contract details. Agent Drew Rosenhaus, who represents Olave, confirmed the financial details, which were first reported by ESPN.

Olave, who had multiple concussions early in his career and missed the final game of last season with a blood clot, was entering his final season under his rookie contract. He is coming off his best season in the NFL, having been selected second-team all-pro after posting career highs with 100 receptions, 1,163 yards receiving and nine touchdowns in 2025.

The deal, which runs through 2030, ends negotiations that began about a year ago.

Still, Olave had been present at offseason training activities and reported on time for training camp this week. ...

TYLER KAUFMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Chris Olave is coming off his best season as pro after posting career highs with 100 catches, 1,163 yards and nine touchdowns in 2025.

Defensive tackle Bryan Bresee left the opening practice of training camp Wednesday with a non-contact knee injury that "doesn't look good," Coach Kellen Moore said.

A person with knowledge of the situation told the Associated Press that initial tests indicated the possibility of a season-ending ACL tear. ...

Taysom Hill, a former BYU quarterback who evolved into a productive multiposition player with the Saints, announced that he won't be returning to the team with which he spent his first nine NFL seasons.

• **BUCCANEERS:** Baker Mayfield feels "disrespected" by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and is focused on playing his best football.

The two-time Pro Bowl quarterback didn't get the contract extension he sought and plans to play out the final season of his three-year, $100 million deal.

Mayfield, who was the No. 1 overall pick in the 2018 NFL draft by Cleveland, revived his career in Tampa Bay after replacing Tom Brady in 2023. He made the Pro Bowl in each of his first two seasons while leading the Bucs to consecutive NFC South titles. He was an MVP candidate through the first half of last season when the team started 6-2 but struggled with injuries and tailed off.

"It's disappointing in that regard, to feel disrespected a little bit," he said. "That's really the disappointing part to feel undervalued after thinking you've earned it."

• **BENGALS:** Cincinnati defensive end Shemar Stewart is expected to miss most of training camp after hyperextending his left knee during Wednesday's practice.

Coach Zac Taylor said Thursday that Stewart avoided a major injury, but that the second-year defensive lineman will miss several weeks.

"Hard to pinpoint exactly how far into training camp that will be. Very fortunate because obviously it looked bad," Taylor said.

• **CHIEFS:** Two court appearances scheduled for the 27-year-old son of Kansas City offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy in connection with the shooting of his mother at their Virginia home were delayed pending a mental health evaluation.

Elijah Bieniemy was arrested Monday in connection with the late-Sunday shooting. He was charged with malicious wounding, use of a firearm in commission of a felony and discharge of a firearm inside a dwelling.

Eric Bieniemy remained away from the Chiefs as they continued with their second full-squad workout of training camp. Pass game coordinator Joe Bleymaier and offensive line coach Andy Heck have assumed most of his responsibilities, while Coach Andy Reid continues to have a significant role overseeing the offensive system.

• **MISC.:** CBS NFL analyst and former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo had an open container of alcohol in his vehicle when he was stopped by police last week and later arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence, authorities said.

According to one of three citations released by the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, the "open bottle of an alcoholic beverage" was discovered in the passenger's side of Romo's black Jeep during an inventory before it was towed.

Romo performed poorly on field sobriety tests and was taken into custody, booked and released. Court records show Romo was later cited for refusing "to take test for intoxication after arrest." He has a court appearance scheduled for Sept. 21.

KIYOSHI MIO/IMAGN IMAGES

QB Matt Stafford and the Rams will battle the Super Bowl champion Seahawks for division supremacy.

PERSPECTIVE

The NFC West: Where worlds collide

BY MIKE VOREL

RENTON, WASH. — There are two worlds atop the NFC West.

One has the attention.

The other has the title.

Come September (or December), something's got to give.

For now, though, consider the Seattle Seahawks and Los Angeles Rams — utter opposites. In Los Angeles, Coach Sean McVay and General Manager Les Snead have built a solar system of assembled superstars. They traded for two-time NFL defensive player of the year Myles Garrett and all-pro cornerback Trent McDuffie this offseason, bulldozing any doubt. When their season opens against San Francisco on Sept. 10, the Rams will roll out last season's NFL leaders in touchdown passes (Matt Stafford), passing yards (Stafford), receptions (Puka Nacua), receiving touchdowns (Davante Adams), sacks (Garrett) and tackles for loss (Garrett).

Oh, and a future first-ballot Hall of Famer might not be far behind.

When the Rams opened training camp Saturday, McVay acknowledged that 10-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Aaron Donald — who retired in 2024 — is mulling a return.

"When we were going through the possibility of acquiring Myles (Garrett), I asked (Donald) what his thoughts and opinions were, no different than the way I talk to (Andrew) Whitworth or keep in touch with Eric Weddle or former players of ours that I think have great perspective on how we operate. ... That's really what stimulated the question of the possibility (of Donald returning).

"But this is his decision. He's earned the right to be able to do it on his terms, and I think that's why you're seeing us take this approach. I did not ever really think this would be something (legitimate). But I'm not going to sit here and act like I'm not excited about the possibility of it."

It's safe to assume Seahawks fans are less excited.

After all, then-Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson spent nearly a decade failing to shake Donald, his disruptive shadow. The 6-foot-1, 280-pound balletic bowling ball tallied 25 tackles for loss and 15.5 sacks in 18 games against Seattle, eclipsed only by the Arizona Cardinals (26 TFL and 16 sacks in 20 games). In 2023, Seahawks quarterback Geno Smith virally shouted, "Oh my God!" as Donald descended upon a disappearing pocket.

Donald retired as one of the most dominant defensive players in NFL history.

If he unretires, there's no telling what he could be.

Would a 35-year-old Donald be diminished by time (and two-plus seasons of settling rust)? Or would a generational juggernaut with fresh legs, a point to prove and the NFL's premier pass-rusher (Garrett) by his side commence stacking sacks like he never left?

For now, the prospect is hypothetical. But it's possible that one of football's biggest bogeymen might come back. Enough so that McVay was asked — seriously — on Saturday: "With your defensive acquisitions and the possibility of Donald returning, do you see this being an all-time great defense?"

McVay unsurprisingly deflected. But in Las Vegas, at least, the answer is clear. Per FanDuel, the Rams (+550) are emphatic Super Bowl favorites, ahead of the Buffalo Bills (+1000), Baltimore Ravens (+1200) and Seahawks (+1200). The Rams have ridden a ridiculous offseason into a searing spotlight.

The Seahawks, somehow arguably overlooked, must like it this way.

Which is why I say there are two worlds atop the NFC West. Because Seattle and Los Angeles feel so far away.

On Saturday, the Seahawks commenced a training camp comparatively devoid of drama. Of course, there are questions that need answering. Like whether first-round running back Jadarian Price will earn a starting spot. Or who will claim available reps at cornerback and safety. Or whether fourth-year dynamo Devon Witherspoon will soon be the NFL's highest paid cornerback. Or how first-year offensive coordinator Brian Fleury will fit.

But don't let the "Hard Knocks" cameras, or the blowup Lombardi Trophy by the berm, fool you. These are not the Legion of Boom Seahawks, whose swagger attracted cameras and captivated the country. These are also not the Rams, who built a piecemeal transformer by trading for all-pros.

These Seahawks haven't added any established superstars. They replaced ex-offensive coordinator Klint Kubiak with Fleury, a nationally anonymous 47-year-old longtime position coach. Tight end AJ Barner said Fleury "does a great job of just being all about ball," and he's "a great fit here."

These Seahawks won a Super Bowl by being about ball, not bluster. They won with a supposed bust at quarterback (Sam Darnold). With a twice-traded middle linebacker (Ernest Jones IV), aging afterthoughts (DeMarcus Lawrence and Cooper Kupp) and undrafted diamonds (Drake Thomas, Josh Jobe, Ty Okada). With waves of developed draft picks (Nick Emmanwori, Grey Zabel, Byron Murphy II, Derick Hall, Zach Charbonnet). With fit and sweat and scheme and buy-in, not sizzle.

With tons of talent, don't get me wrong. Like Leonard Williams (who isn't talked about nationally enough) and Murphy (who isn't talked about nationally enough) and Witherspoon (who isn't talked about nationally enough) and Barner (who isn't talked about nationally enough).

I could keep going, but you get the point.

The Seahawks, full stop, are not talked about nationally enough.

Only this time, it's by design.

"No matter the circumstances, we're going to work," Jones said Tuesday. "No matter what the outside noise is, all we care about is who's in this building, who's putting on cleats, who's working toward the greater cause for the Seahawks. Once you have that, it's hard to honestly be beat."

Perhaps Los Angeles is sizzle and Seattle is substance. Perhaps the Rams' transformer cannot be overcome. Perhaps Donald isn't done.

Soon enough, worlds will collide. Only one can win.

— Seattle Times

Commanders bet on McLaurin rebound

COMMANDERS FROM B7

have a great skill set — otherwise they wouldn't be here — but there's nuances of the position, there's getting the trust of the quarterback, which is very important, and it's creating certain habits that allow you to be successful."

McCaffrey and Lane are among those competing for the starting slot job. Both players had their moments in 2025, but neither was consistent enough.

If that continues into this season, the Commanders do have some insurance in the form of tight end Chig Okonkwo. He has frequently lined up as a slot receiver throughout his career and has spent time there during practice. He can't play there full time, but he could help cover up a potential weakness.

"He's an outstanding receiver," General Manager Adam Peters said. "That allows you to be a little bit more multiple. You can go [with] more two-tight-end sets. [When you go to a] one-tight-end set, it's like you almost have four receivers on the field. ... When he gets the ball in his hands, then he's pretty magical."

Washington has less of a cushion at the outside wide receiver spot opposite McLaurin. Treylon Burks logged most of those reps at practice Wednesday but missed Thursday because of a sore foot. Coach Dan Quinn said he's not concerned about it being a long-term issue.

Burks, 26, had flashes last season — his one-handed touchdown catch against the Denver Broncos was unforgettable — but still finished the season with only 10 catches for 130 yards. He'd need to make significant strides to handle starting duties.

While Dyami Brown has been a fine rotational wide receiver as a pro, he's never been a starting-caliber player. Van Jefferson once was, but his last effective season came in 2021.

The X-factor among the group is Williams. Although the rookie spent most of his last college season lined up in the slot, he spent more time on the outside the previous year.

At 5-foot-11 and 195 pounds, Williams has enough size to serve as a "Z" wide receiver in the NFL. He's sure-handed with impressive speed and athleticism. Working from the slot Thursday, Williams impressed McLaurin with a choice route where he beat the linebacker and displayed his savviness, patience and timing. The veteran believes Williams has the ability to win on the outside, as well, but the next step is shedding physical defensive backs and making contested catches.

"He's a quiet guy, but I think his play speaks for a lot of who he is," McLaurin said. "He's very smooth and he's twitchy. When he's running routes, he's very sudden and you don't quite know when he's breaking until he breaks. And then he has the explosiveness to get out of his cuts, and he has really good hands as well."

Peters was confident enough in what he saw from the wide receivers in OTAs to stand pat. There are intriguing veterans in free agency such as Stefon Diggs and Keenan Allen, but they could get swooped up by another team at any moment.

The Commanders are comfortable taking that risk. Whether that's wise will reveal itself throughout training camp.

"Just the way the guys have progressed, how much we've invested in that position in terms of draft capital — I think we've invested a lot — and then our guys have done a really good job in the free agent market, too, bringing in some real good competition there," Peters said when asked why he was confident in the unit. "The cream will rise to the top.

"I'm confident that those guys will take a step up."

McCaffrey's up-and-down day

McCaffrey had a bad drop during red-zone team drills but bounced back when he hauled in a high pass from quarterback Jayden Daniels and tapped his toes in the back of the end zone for the score.

That highlight was one of the few for the offense as the defense outpaced it for the second practice in a row.

"I'm not worried about where we're at right now," McLaurin said. "This is Day 2. . . . The juice is what I'm super excited about: The competitiveness."

Allegretti sits out

Center Nick Allegretti (calf strain) joined Burks in missing practice Thursday.

"He's still going through the evaluation process," Quinn said. "It's not something that we're overly concerned about."

Julian Good-Jones started at center in Allegretti's place. With Burks out, Brown and Jefferson split most of the first-team snaps at outside wide receiver.

Punter Tress Way (pectoral), linebacker Kain Medrano (hamstring), cornerback Trey Amos (fibula) and defensive ends Deatrich Wise (quad) and Dorance Armstrong (ACL) also didn't practice.

Kickers Jake Moody and Drew Stevens, who are competing to make the roster, both made all of their field goals.

JOHN MCDONNELL/AP

Terry McLaurin, left, and QB Jayden Daniels both hope to bounce back from injury-plagued seasons.

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BASEBALL

National League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Atlanta	64	45	.587	—	6-4	W-2
Philadelphia	57	52	.523	7	2-8	L-3
x-Miami	55	54	.505	9	3-7	W-3
Washington	55	55	.500	9½	5-5	L-2
x-New York	46	63	.422	18	5-5	L-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Milwaukee	67	41	.620	—	6-4	L-1
Chicago	62	47	.569	5½	6-4	W-1
Pittsburgh	55	55	.500	13	3-7	L-3
St. Louis	54	55	.495	13½	3-7	L-1
Cincinnati	51	57	.472	16	6-4	W-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
x-Los Angeles	68	40	.630	—	6-4	W-1
Arizona	57	52	.523	11½	6-4	W-2
x-San Diego	55	53	.509	13	7-3	W-5
x-San Francisco	46	62	.426	22	4-6	W-1
Colorado	42	67	.385	26½	3-7	L-4

x-Late game

American League

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Tampa Bay	64	44	.593	—	8-2	W-2
New York	61	48	.560	3½	6-4	L-2
x-Boston	56	51	.523	7½	7-3	W-1
Baltimore	53	56	.486	11½	5-5	W-1
Toronto	50	59	.459	14½	4-6	W-1

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Chicago	57	51	.528	—	5-5	W-2
Cleveland	56	54	.509	2	4-6	W-1
Minnesota	55	55	.500	3	6-4	W-1
Detroit	51	58	.468	6½	5-5	L-1
Kansas City	46	64	.418	12	6-4	L-1

WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STR
Texas	55	54	.505	—	5-5	L-2
Houston	55	55	.500	½	8-2	W-3
x-Seattle	53	56	.486	2	4-6	L-1
x-Athletics	45	63	.417	9½	3-7	L-1
Los Angeles	42	67	.385	13	4-6	L-3

x-Late game

Braves 5, Nationals 4

NATIONALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Wood rf	2	1	0	0	3	0	.270
García 1b	5	1	3	2	0	1	.286
Crews cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.224
Abrams ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.289
Lile lf	4	2	2	2	0	0	.248
Ruiz c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.263
Chaparro ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.221
Ford c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Tena dh	4	0	2	0	0	1	.249
Vivas 3b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.237
House ph-3b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.233
Nuñez 2b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.242
TOTALS	**34**	**4**	**7**	**4**	**4**	**6**	**—**

BRAVES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Baldwin c	3	1	0	0	1	0	.279
Acuña rf	3	2	1	1	1	1	.244
Olson 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.261
Harris cf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.290
Albies 2b	3	0	1	2	0	0	.261
Dubón 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.258
Smith dh	3	1	1	0	0	0	.267
Yastrzemski lf	2	1	1	2	0	0	.226
White ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.233
Jarvis ss	2	0	0	0	1	0	.243
TOTALS	**28**	**5**	**4**	**5**	**3**	**3**	**—**

WASHINGTON	011	100	100	—	**4**	**7**	**1**
ATLANTA	000	122	00X	—	**5**	**4**	**0**

E: Wood (6). **LOB:** Washington 7, Atlanta 2. **2B:** García (19), Tena (11). **3B:** García (5). **HR:** Lile 2 (13), off Holmes; García (23), off Holmes; Acuña (8), off Irvin; Yastrzemski (7), off Irvin. **RBI:** Lile 2 (54), García 2 (76), Acuña (23), Yastrzemski 2 (30), Albies 2 (62). **SB:** Wood (17), Nuñez (39).

NATIONALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Irvin	5	3	5	5	2	1	61	5.56
Palmquist	2	1	0	0	1	0	30	7.31
Cornelio	1	0	0	0	0	2	9	5.59

BRAVES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Holmes	4⅔	5	3	3	2	4	69	3.88
D.Young	1	1	0	0	0	1	17	2.08
Mederos	1	1	1	1	1	0	17	4.05
Lee	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1	20	2.16
Iglesias	1	0	0	0	1	0	15	2.31

WP: Mederos (1-0); **LP:** Irvin (2-5); **S:** Iglesias (23). **Inherited runners-scored:** Palmquist 2-2, D.Young 2-0, Mederos 1-0, Lee 1-0. **WP:** Irvin. ABS Challenge_Mederos (Ball-Overturned to Strike) Pitch timer violations_Lile (batter). **T:** 2:21. **A:** 35,418 (41,149).

HOW THEY SCORED

NATIONALS SECOND
Daylen Lile homers. Keibert Ruiz lines out. Jose Tena singles. Jorbit Vivas grounds out, Jose Tena to second. Nasim Nunez grounds out.
Nationals 1, Braves 0
NATIONALS THIRD
James Wood grounds out. **Luis Garcia homers.** Dylan Crews strikes out swinging. CJ Abrams strikes out swinging.
Nationals 2, Braves 0
NATIONALS FOURTH
Daylen Lile homers. Keibert Ruiz flies out. Jose Tena grounds out. Jorbit Vivas pops out.
Nationals 3, Braves 0
BRAVES FOURTH
Drake Baldwin flies out. **Ronald Acuna homers.** Matt Olson grounds out. Michael Harris strikes out swinging.
Nationals 3, Braves 1
BRAVES FIFTH
Ozzie Albies pops out. Mauricio Dubon lines out. Dominic Smith singles, advances to 2nd. Throwing error by James Wood. **Mike Yastrzemski homers, Dominic Smith scores.** Jim Jarvis grounds out.
Nationals 3, Braves 3
BRAVES SIXTH
Drake Baldwin walks. Ronald Acuna walks. Matt Olson flies out. Michael Harris grounds out, Ronald Acuna to second, Drake Baldwin to third. **Ozzie Albies singles, Ronald Acuna scores. Drake Baldwin scores.** Mauricio Dubon grounds out.
Braves 5, Nationals 3
NATIONALS SEVENTH
Nasim Nunez pops out. James Wood walks. **Luis Garcia triples, James Wood scores.** Dylan Crews pops out. CJ Abrams grounds out.
Braves 5, Nationals 4

NATIONALS' LEADERS

Entering Thursday's game.

BATTERS	AVG	OBA	H	HR	RBI	BB	SO
Ortiz	.500	.500	1	0	0	0	0
Abrams	.292	.365	115	27	82	39	97
Wiemer	.286	.398	20	3	12	12	29
García	.281	.312	97	22	74	16	58
Wood	.271	.398	114	30	72	86	148
Ruiz	.267	.297	60	7	36	9	28
Mead	.254	.352	72	17	48	39	62
Lile	.245	.297	101	11	52	27	83
Nuñez	.244	.326	75	1	31	37	74
Tena	.243	.310	45	5	20	16	61
Vivas	.240	.323	47	3	18	22	33
Young	.237	.298	70	9	38	21	57
House	.236	.287	41	7	26	13	52
Crews	.229	.311	48	9	24	18	53
Chaparro	.224	.337	17	5	19	12	21
Ford	.200	.333	4	1	4	3	7
Millas	.185	.277	24	2	11	14	37

PITCHERS	ERA	IP	H	ER	BB	SO
Williams	0.00	1.1	0	0	0	1
Cosgrove	1.29	7	6	1	2	4
Yean	2.25	8	4	2	2	4
Fernandez	2.25	4.0	3	1	2	3
Poulin	2.70	36.2	27	11	21	25
Griffin	2.76	124	100	38	28	113
Cavalli	3.55	116.2	115	46	36	130
Beeter	3.58	32.2	21	13	20	34
Ribalta	3.69	31.2	27	13	12	31
Lord	3.88	58	50	25	21	52
Lovelady	3.91	23	26	10	17	21
Alvarez	4.06	57.2	59	26	28	58
Lawrence	4.26	6.1	7	3	7	6
Littell	4.94	105.2	108	58	34	68
Irvin	5.23	51.2	48	30	22	58
Mikolas	5.65	102	115	64	21	52
Cornelio	5.89	18.1	17	12	17	17
Perez	6.19	16.0	16	11	11	9
Schultz	6.40	32.1	43	23	12	32
Parker	6.58	39.2	46	29	13	34
Kent	6.75	10.2	14	8	2	9
Waldichuk	6.75	9.1	8	7	6	8
Varland	6.82	31.2	43	24	15	30
Krook	7.71	4.2	4	4	6	4
Henry	7.90	13.2	17	12	7	15
Palmquist	8.36	14	18	13	6	15
Granillo	9.64	9.1	13	10	8	3
Kranick	11.57	4.2	6	6	4	3
Vivas	16.88	2.2	8	5	1	0
Wiemer	22.50	2	7	5	2	0
Rutledge	47.25	1.1	6	7	2	2

NL leaders

Entering Thursday's games.

BATTING

Arraez, SF	.331
Lopez, Mia	.329
Gonzales, Pit	.315
Lee, SF	.302
Freeman, LA	.302
McCarthy, Col	.293
Rumfield, Col	.293
Harris, Atl	.293

ERA

Misiorowski, Mil	1.575
Sale, Atl	2.077
Burns, Cin	2.396
Rodriguez, Ari	2.480
Meyer, Mia	2.676
Yamamoto, LA	2.721
Sánchez, Phi	2.726

AL leaders

Entering Thursday's games.

BATTING

Alvarez, Hou	.321
Díaz, TB	.301
Jung, Tex	.294
Clement, Tor	.294
Simpson, TB	.290
Contreras, Bos	.285
McGonigle, Det	.285
Aranda, TB	.284

ERA

Schlittler, NY	2.041
Martinez, TB	2.455
Cease, Tor	2.462
Messick, Cle	2.585
Rasmussen, TB	3.072
Burke, Chi	3.194
Hancock, Sea	3.263

DAVID BANKS/IMAGN IMAGES

Tarps off, walk-off

Tristan Peters celebrates his walk-off walk Thursday as the American League Central-leading White Sox knocked off the visiting Yankees, 2-1, in 11 innings.

White Sox 2, Yankees 1 (11)

Tristan Peters drew a bases-loaded walk in the 11th inning to force in the automatic runner as Chicago edged New York.

YANKEES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Grisham cf	4	0	2	1	0	1	.216
Rice 1b	3	0	0	0	2	0	.269
J.Domínguez rf	5	0	1	0	0	3	.232
Goldschmidt dh	5	0	0	0	0	2	.254
Jones lf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.230
Schuemann ph-lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.203
Chisholm 2b	3	0	1	0	2	1	.224
Volpe ss	5	1	0	0	0	2	.248
McMahon 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.208
Wells c	2	0	1	0	0	1	.162
Rosario ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.234
Sánchez c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.245
TOTALS	**37**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**4**	**12**	**—**

WHITE SOX	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Meidroth 2b-ss	2	1	0	0	3	0	.274
Murakami 1b	4	0	1	0	1	2	.240
Vargas dh	5	0	0	0	0	3	.239
Grichuk lf	2	0	2	0	1	0	.256
Antonacci ph-lf-2b	2	0	1	0	0	1	.280
C.Montgomery 3b	5	0	0	0	0	2	.217
Pereira cf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.213
Peters ph-cf	1	1	0	1	1	0	.271
B.Montgomery rf	4	0	0	0	0	1	.243
Acuña ss	3	0	0	0	0	0	.241
Benintendi ph-lf	1	0	1	1	0	0	.243
Quero c	4	0	1	0	0	0	.186
TOTALS	**36**	**2**	**6**	**2**	**6**	**11**	**—**

NEW YORK	000	000	000	**10**	—	**1**	**6**	**0**
CHICAGO	000	000	000	**11**	—	**2**	**6**	**1**

Two outs when winning run scored.
E: McMahon (6), Quero (7). **LOB:** New York 11, Chicago 10. **2B:** Wells (3), J.Domínguez (11), Grichuk (12).

YANKEES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Weathers	7	3	0	0	3	4	3.99
Headrick	1	0	0	0	1	2	1.30
Chivilli	1⅓	2	1	0	0	3	0.60
Cruz	1⅓	1	1	0	2	2	2.51

WHITE SOX	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Burke	6	3	0	0	2	10	3.04
Newcomb	2	2	0	0	1	1	2.87
Hudson	1	0	0	0	0	0	2.89
Murphy	1	1	1	0	0	0	4.23
S.Domínguez	1	0	0	0	1	1	4.10

WP: S.Domínguez (4-3); **LP:** Cruz (4-5). **Inherited runners-scored:** Cruz 2-0. **IBB:** off S.Domínguez (Chisholm), off Cruz (Murakami). **HBP:** Murphy (McMahon). **WP:** Headrick, Chivilli. ABS Challenge_Pereira (Strike-Confirmed) Pitch timer violations_Domínguez (pitcher) **T:** 3:15. **A:** 29,384 (40,241).

Twins 4, Royals 3

Kody Clemens hit a game-ending grand slam with two outs in the ninth inning as Minnesota beat Kansas City after being no-hit by Noah Cameron until the seventh.

Cameron threw eight a career-best eight innings of scoreless ball for the Royals.

ROYALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Jensen dh	3	1	0	0	2	1	.235
Rave cf	3	1	2	0	0	0	.286
Thomas ph-cf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.229
Caglianone 1b	4	1	2	2	0	0	.254
Perez c	4	0	0	0	0	2	.212
Massey 2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.266
Loftin rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.252
Collins lf	3	0	2	0	1	0	.242
J.Rojas 3b	3	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Tolbert ss	4	0	2	0	0	1	.333
TOTALS	**33**	**3**	**8**	**2**	**3**	**5**	**—**

TWINS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Martin lf	2	0	0	0	1	0	.243
Caratini ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.235
Jeffers c	3	1	1	0	0	1	.294
Lewis 2b	4	1	1	0	0	2	.216
Bell dh	3	0	0	0	1	0	.242
Roden pr	0	1	0	0	0	0	.189
Clemens rf	4	1	1	4	0	1	.244
Keaschall cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.256
Lee 3b	2	0	0	0	1	0	.244
Jackson 1b	3	0	0	0	0	3	.308
Kreidler ss	2	0	0	0	0	0	.243
Larnach ph	1	0	0	0	0	1	.287
TOTALS	**28**	**4**	**3**	**4**	**3**	**8**	**—**

KANSAS CITY	002	010	000	—	**3**	**8**	**0**
MINNESOTA	000	000	004	—	**4**	**3**	**1**

Two outs when winning run scored.
E: Clemens (3). **LOB:** Kansas City 7, Minnesota 2. **2B:** Rave 2 (4). **HR:** Caglianone (17), off Ober; Clemens (19), off Strahm.

ROYALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Cameron	8	1	0	0	2	7	4.59
Erceg	⅔	1	3	3	1	1	5.85
Strahm	0	1	1	1	0	0	7.01

TWINS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Ober	6	4	3	2	2	3	4.45
Rogers	1	1	0	0	1	1	5.03
Morris	1	1	0	0	0	0	3.18
Gómez	1	2	0	0	0	1	3.33

WP: Gómez (2-0); **LP:** Strahm (3-4). **Inherited runners-scored:** Strahm 3-3. **HBP:** Erceg (Jeffers). **WP:** Cameron. ABS Challenge_Lewis (Strike-Overturned to Ball) **T:** 2:23. **A:** 22,944 (38,544).

Rays 3, Rangers 2

Cedric Mullins hit a go-ahead home run in the eighth inning, Jonny DeLuca also went deep and seven pitchers combined on a two-hitter for Tampa Bay in a victory over Texas.

RANGERS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Langford lf	4	0	1	1	1	1	.277
Duran 3b-ss	3	1	0	0	1	2	.269
Nimmo dh	2	0	0	0	2	0	.266
Burger 1b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.236
Foscue 2b	1	0	0	0	0	1	.262
Pederson ph	1	0	0	1	0	0	.252
Smith pr-3b	1	0	0	0	1	0	.213
Cauley cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.233
Lopez ss-2b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.297
Wynns c	3	0	0	0	0	3	.094
Carter ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.202
Osuna rf	3	1	1	0	1	1	.258
TOTALS	**30**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**7**	**13**	**—**

RAYS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Y.Díaz dh	4	0	2	1	0	1	.303
Aranda 1b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.284
Caminero 3b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.280
Mullins cf	4	1	1	1	0	0	.202
DeLuca lf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.262
Mesa rf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.224
Williamson 2b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.251
Walls ss	2	0	0	0	1	0	.217
Feduccia c	3	1	1	0	0	1	.232
TOTALS	**31**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**2**	**5**	**—**

TEXAS	000	110	000	—	**2**	**2**	**0**
TAMPA BAY	001	001	01X	—	**3**	**9**	**1**

E: Walls (6). **LOB:** Texas 9, Tampa Bay 6. **2B:** Langford (13), Feduccia (7). **HR:** DeLuca (7), off Gray; Mullins (13), off Peoples.

RANGERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Winn	1	1	0	0	0	0	5.94
Gonzales	3	5	1	1	2	1	1.50
Gray	2	1	1	1	0	2	3.48
Ahlstrom	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1	4.71
Peoples	⅔	2	1	1	0	1	2.70

RAYS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
McClanahan	3	0	1	1	2	3	3.09
Legumina	⅔	0	0	0	0	1	3.74
Booser	⅔	1	1	1	0	1	2.11
Kimbrel	⅔	1	0	0	1	1	4.41
Matz	2	0	0	0	1	3	6.07
Cleavinger	1	0	0	0	1	2	3.31
Baker	1	0	0	0	2	2	1.49

WP: Cleavinger (3-3); **LP:** Peoples (0-1); **S:** Baker (30). **Inherited runners-scored:** Legumina 2-1, Booser 2-0, Kimbrel 1-1. **IBB:** off Gonzales (Caminero). **HBP:** McClanahan (Duran). ABS Challenge_Aranda (Strike-Confirmed) Pitch timer violations_Gonzales (pitcher). **T:** 2:49. **A:** 15,322 (25,025).

Cubs 4, Cardinals 2 (10)

Alex Bregman drove in the go-ahead run with a 10th inning double and Chicago beat St. Louis.

Bregman went 9 for 18 as the Cubs took three of four games in the series.

CUBS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Crow-Armstrong cf	5	0	2	0	0	2	.285
Suzuki dh-rf	3	1	0	0	2	1	.270
Busch 1b	5	0	2	1	0	0	.243
Bregman 3b	4	2	2	1	1	0	.248
Happ lf	5	0	1	1	0	0	.219
Hoerner 2b	5	0	3	0	0	0	.257
Conforto rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.236
Dean rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.375
Ramirez ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.311
Kelly c	4	0	1	0	0	0	.260
Swanson ss	3	1	0	0	1	2	.216
TOTALS	**39**	**4**	**11**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**—**

CARDINALS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Wetherholt 2b	5	1	2	1	0	1	.253
Walker dh	5	0	1	0	0	3	.281
Burleson 1b	4	0	1	0	1	0	.284
Herrera c	4	0	1	0	0	0	.246
Pagés c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.204
Crooks ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.171
Nootbaar rf	4	1	0	0	1	3	.241
Winn ss	3	0	1	0	1	0	.242
Torres lf	4	0	2	1	0	0	.244
Jordan 3b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.231
Church cf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.222
Fermín ph-cf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.246
TOTALS	**38**	**2**	**10**	**2**	**3**	**9**	**—**

CHICAGO	000	100	100	**2**	—	**4**	**11**	**0**
ST. LOUIS	010	000	100	**0**	—	**2**	**10**	**1**

E: Nootbaar (1). **LOB:** Chicago 10, St. Louis 10. **2B:** Crow-Armstrong 2 (21), Bregman 2 (21), Happ (21). **HR:** Wetherholt (16), off Thielbar.

CUBS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Assad	4⅓	6	1	1	2	6	3.75
Rolison	1⅓	1	0	0	1	1	2.55
Thielbar	1	1	1	1	0	1	4.09
Hollowell	1	1	0	0	0	0	2.51
Webb	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0	2.64
Civale	⅔	0	0	0	0	1	5.31

CARDINALS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Pallante	6⅓	7	2	2	2	3	3.72
Soriano	⅔	1	0	0	2	1	3.38
Stanek	1	1	0	0	0	0	4.25
O'Brien	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.50
Gastelum	1	2	2	1	0	0	6.30

WP: Webb (4-2); **LP:** Gastelum (2-2); **S:** Civale (1). **Inherited runners-scored:** Rolison 1-0, Civale 1-0, Soriano 1-1. **WP:** Soriano. ABS Challenge_Hollowell (Ball-Overturned to Strike) **T:** 3:02. **A:** 29,475 (44,494).

Reds 3, Pirates 2

Elly De La Cruz scored on fielder's choice in the ninth inning to lift Cincinnati to a victory over Pittsburgh.

Pirates opener Yohan Ramírez pitched two scoreless innings allowing one hit with a walk and four strikeouts.

PIRATES	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
Mangum lf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.301
B.Lowe 2b	4	1	1	1	0	2	.253
Reynolds dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.267
Valdez rf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.277
O'Hearn 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.270
Gonzales 3b	4	1	2	0	0	0	.316
Rodríguez c	3	0	1	0	1	1	.261
Gonzalez ss	1	0	0	1	0	1	.237
Triolo ph-ss	1	0	0	0	1	0	.244
Jh.Garcia cf-rf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.190
TOTALS	**33**	**2**	**7**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**—**

REDS	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG
De La Cruz ss	4	2	3	1	1	0	.279
Stewart 1b	3	0	1	1	2	2	.254
Bleday lf	4	0	0	0	1	3	.228
Stephenson c	2	0	1	0	3	1	.251
N.Lowe dh	4	0	1	1	1	0	.255
Suárez 3b	3	0	0	0	1	0	.202
Myers cf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.276
Marte rf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.186
McLain 2b	4	1	1	0	0	2	.191
TOTALS	**32**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**9**	**12**	**—**

PITTSBURGH	000	011	000	—	**2**	**7**	**0**
CINCINNATI	002	000	001	—	**3**	**9**	**0**

Two outs when winning run scored.
LOB: Pittsburgh 8, Cincinnati 12. **2B:** Gonzales (18), Valdez (9), N.Lowe (15), De La Cruz 3 (18). **HR:** B.Lowe (23), off Lowder.

PIRATES	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Ramírez	2	1	0	0	1	4	3.10
Barco	3	5	2	2	3	2	7.36
Murdock	2	2	0	0	3	3	0.00
Montgomery	1	0	0	0	0	2	3.86
Soto	⅔	1	1	1	2	1	3.77

REDS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	ERA
Lowder	6	5	2	2	0	5	5.42
Burke	1	0	0	0	2	2	2.56
Antone	1	1	0	0	0	1	2.10
Pagán	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.84

WP: Pagán (3-1); **LP:** Soto (5-3). **IBB:** off Soto (Stewart). **HBP:** Burke (Mangum). **WP:** Barco. ABS Challenge_Stewart (Strike-Confirmed) Pitch timer violations_Soto (pitcher). **T:** 3:00. **A:** 25,532 (43,891).

Cardinals 3, Cubs 2 (10)

Late Wednesday

Iván Herrera had a two-run double with one out in the 10th inning to give St. Louis a comeback victory over Chicago.

| CUBS | A

From mentor to victor: de Minaur knocks off teen Hewitt in 'dream' matchup

Defending DC Open champion moves on with straight sets victory

BY BAILEY JOHNSON

EMILEE CHINN/GETTY IMAGES

Alex de Minaur, right, beat fellow Australian and friend Cruz Hewitt in the second round Thursday.

Alex de Minaur didn't think this was going to happen yet. Not this week. He thought he had a little more time to get used to the idea before it was standing across the net from him Thursday afternoon.

But then Cruz Hewitt, the 17-year-old son of former world No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt, earned a spot in the main draw for this week's DC Open. De Minaur and Hewitt, both Australians, have known each other for what de Minaur estimates is a decade. They hit together regularly and de Minaur, 27, who looked up to the elder Hewitt when he was rising through the ranks, has in turn become something of a mentor to the teenager.

"He's going to be a dangerous player, for sure, and obviously I don't think he's too scared of the moment, which is something that's very important at a young age," de Minaur said Sunday, while Hewitt was playing the second of his two qualifier matches. "It's great to see him doing what he's doing. Obviously having Lleyton in his corner, the way he's handling the pressure, the expectation, the eyeballs that he would have being Lleyton's son. He's a good kid, and he's definitely doing the right things."

Hewitt won that qualifier when his opponent retired from the match, which launched him into the main draw of a men's tournament for the first time in his young career. He then beat fellow qualifier Marcos Giron in the round of 32 — a win that meant, if de Minaur took care of business in his own first-round match, the two would meet for the first time.

"If I play Alex, that would be a dream to share the court with him," Hewitt said Tuesday. "He's like my older brother. I've known him basically nearly my whole life. He's stayed with us. We have Christmas together, also. To play him, share the court with him, [when] he's taught me so much, I think that would be a pretty cool memory for us."

De Minaur, who won the DC Open last year and is the No. 1 seed this year, took care of business against Stefanos Tsitsipas to set up the dream match. The two stepped onto the stadium court at the Rock Creek Park tennis center Thursday afternoon, and neither could quite believe it was really happening.

"I probably wasn't ready to play him this week," de Minaur said after the match, grinning. "I didn't expect that. I knew at some stage we were going to play each other. I wasn't expecting it this week, but I'm glad it happened. I'm looking forward to the next ones."

As Hewitt walked out from the locker room, his father's victory at the DC Open in 2004 was marked on the edge of the stands over his right shoulder. His near-lifelong friend was waiting to be his opponent. It was all, he said later, a very special moment.

"I've looked up to him my whole life, pretty much," Hewitt said. "Seen him play so many times, practiced together. As I said, he's like my brother, so it was special to share the court."

De Minaur quickly went up 5-0 in the first set, cruising while Hewitt tried to settle in. And when Hewitt did settle down — though de Minaur still won, 6-2, 6-3, in an efficient 60 minutes — he showed flashes of the powerful groundstrokes and intense serve that will propel him as he tries to build on his performance in Washington.

The two shared a warm embrace and a long moment at the net after the match ended. De Minaur congratulated Hewitt and told him he hopes they're playing against each other for another 10 years.

"He's always been a great kid," de Minaur said. "He's loved tennis, and I can't say this enough, the way he's handling the spotlight, the pressure, the expectations of being who he is. Even after a week like this one, right, there's going to be even more pressure and expectation, but I think the whole kind of world should let him develop at his own pace, right? It takes time.

"He can definitely produce this extremely high level of tennis. I think the next part for him is to try to do it consistently week after week, which I'm sure he'll get to."

Being 'everywhere and nowhere' is the mission

DC OPEN FROM B7

we love it. It's intense. It means something. And you just want to keep coming back."

Back before the DC Open was the Citi Open or the Legg Mason Tennis Classic or the Newsweek Tennis Classic, it was the Sovran Bank Classic. Then, during the 1980s, Tai stumbled into becoming a ball person through a love for playing tennis. Getting closer to the action of top stars was a no-brainer.

Since then, he moved to San Diego and became a pediatrician. Every once in a while, though, he'll find his way back to the court, often traveling with his daughter Emily to work as ball people at top U.S. events. For each, there's a sharp cutline.

"You have to be skilled," DC Open ball crew chair Joey Ramsey says. "If the goal is to blend into the environment, there's a level of speed, agility, precision that [role] requires that we want to measure. More than anything else, you need to know what you're doing."

A few weeks before each year's tournament, Ramsey and six other chairs host tryouts. This year, 60 tried out for 16 open spots. Drills can range from running tests, ball-rolling examinations and quizzes about court positioning. With a player's every movement, ball people need to shift and remain close enough to their eye line to throw a prospective ball but far enough away to avoid being a distraction. Finding that feel comes with time. But the crew can't have any weak links.

Most prepare for tryouts by watching and playing tennis. Some say running practice can help, but the job is one of intuition.

"Everyone needs to know what they're doing," says Max Sheldon, a 17-year-old who has worked the event four times. "You have to know tennis and have a feel for the athlete."

Selectees join a staff of 120, most of whom return from prior years. If someone makes the team once, they're automatically admitted to future staffs. A large selection is valuable. The chairs assign 10 members to each of the five available courts, and groups alternate at the hour mark. "That's about the amount of time we've found someone can be at their top sprint without appearing exhausted," Ramsey says. Because, of course, a fine ball person isn't panting in the corner.

"You really never notice them," world No. 26 Emma Navarro jokes. "A good ballboy I'll never remember, honestly."

In the north corner of the Rock Creek Tennis Center property, a few industrial white tents and trailers serve as the mess hall, command center and, on occasion, trivia outpost for ball crew members.

Each morning, the staff begins filing in around 9:30 for the first matches at 11. Folks receive their schedules, which shift them among the five courts every day alongside a new band of fellow "ballers" (as those on the younger end refer to themselves). Some scarf down some Dunkin' and a bit of coffee.

Then "summer camp" commences, Ramsey says. His staff requires that volunteers submit a fun fact about themselves before the event. Between shifts, they play cards — Uno, poker and more — and social games involving those fun facts.

Late Tuesday afternoon, after Tai's morning match, he walks toward the computer-outfitted camper to talk about plans for his evening assignment if it rains, as the forecast projects. As he takes the first step, the door slings open and a 14-year-old crew member jumps out laughing.

"Obviously, we don't want people to think about us out there," says chairman Jon Ginsberg, 40. "But this should be a good time. We want people to want to do this, no matter their background."

HANNAH FOSLIEN/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Kuangkai Tai, center, leaves with his fellow ball crew members after a shift on the Grandstand Court during the DC Open on Wednesday.

In that sense, Tai stands out a bit. Most volunteers are local teenagers, many of whom are players for area tennis clubs and high school teams. Tournaments largely don't promote applications. You hear about openings through the proverbial grapevine.

Sects of traveling ball people, however, pop into pools. Tai, alongside his daughter, tried out for the U.S. Open (she got the bid and he didn't). Ramsey uses his vacation time each summer to follow some friends along parts of the "East Coast swing" — the U.S. Open, DC Open and Cincinnati Open. "I would do all of them every year if my wife let me," he says. "But we have kids. She'd leave me if I did that."

The allure is simple. Watching top-level tennis for free with the best view in the house, all while hanging out with similar racket lovers for days on end, is "the dream," Tai says. Even then, the ordeal is still a job.

After a two-hour rain delay Tuesday, most crew members have checked out as the final two matches of the night drag past 10. The camper is quiet. Inside, Ramsey and Ginsberg scroll through a web program designed by a former DC Open ball crew member. It tracks all 120 staffers, allowing chair people and crew captains to assign ratings to each.

After the round of 32 is complete, it's their job to make cuts. With fewer matches, fewer crews are needed. The pair have been taking notes.

"This is when it gets tough," Ramsey says. "You never want anyone to have to leave."

He glances back at the small stars beside each name, then at Venus Williams on the TV screen.

After years of repetition, Tai knows how to survive. He does some work between matches (he's still, in fact, a pediatrician). He stretches and warms up his mind as he watches other matches, processing where he would need to run in each scenario.

The environment, he says, is enjoyable. He had an 18-year-old crew captain a few days ago. It keeps him young. But, more than anything, he wants to stay.

"You have to take this serious," he explains. "Tennis is a serious sport, and it's our job to be prepared, in the right place, ready to help."

Under the lights for his final match before the first round of cuts will come, he stands behind the chain-link fence once more, watching. Following a point, one of the younger workers on the court drops a ball and has to run onto the court before the next serve. The limited crowd murmurs.

Tai's lips quiver, and he looks down.

"It's just intense," he says. "You need to be everywhere and nowhere."

After the next point, the shift changes and he opens the gate. In a brief, silent exchange, he smiles at the teenager. Then he replaces him, grabbing two neon balls from his hands. He turns, looks forward, and the next play begins.

García does his part but Nats succumb to Braves

NATIONALS FROM B7

part to help push them in the right direction, hitting a home run, a triple and a double to finish a single shy of the cycle. Daylen Lile contributed with two home runs. But starter Jake Irvin gave up five runs in his return from the injured list, and the Nationals wasted opportunities with runners in scoring position in the 5-4 loss.

The Nationals (55-55) are 2½ games out of the third National League wild-card spot.

"Really frustrating," García said through an interpreter. "As much as personally I had a really good night at the end of the day you want to go home with a win."

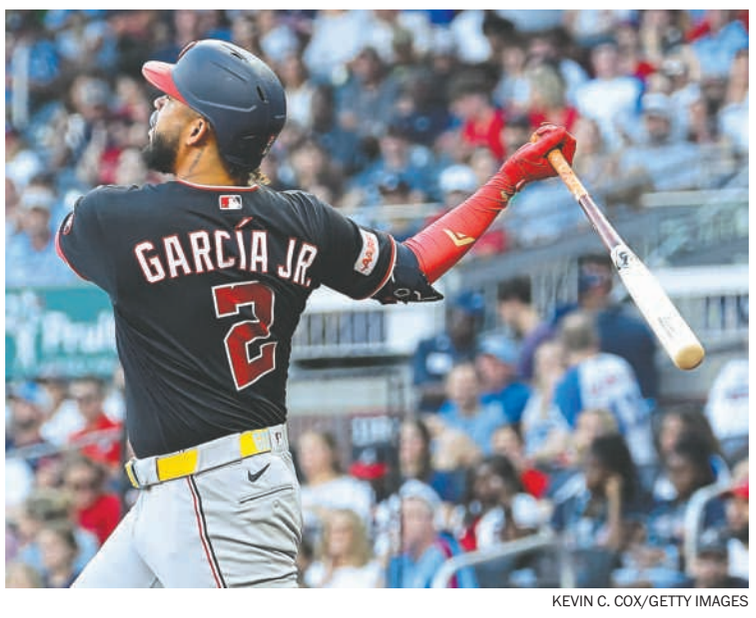
The Nationals' trade deadline fate isn't decided yet. But the pressure on the team to perform in these next three games is now sky high if the clubhouse is to stay intact.

"I love this team," García Jr. said before the game. "I love this clubhouse. I love this organization. This is the organization that gave me the opportunity to play baseball, and I want to stay here."

Even with the heightened stakes, and with most of the team playing in meaningful games after the all-star break for the first time, the clubhouse has remained calm. García said he's heard from President of Baseball Operations Paul Toboni multiple times to make sure 'things are clear' about where he stands. CJ Abrams, who's name has also been floated in rumor mills, said he's been pretty chill this deadline because Toboni, like he's done with García, has been communicating with him.

Manager Blake Butera has been checking in with players, too. While he'll probably be looped in early to potential moves, the power ultimately rests with the front office. Butera doesn't know what the outcome will be for his players, but he wants to be a resource if they need him.

He thinks the clubhouse is handling the uncertainty as well, he said.



KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES

With Monday's trade deadline quickly approaching and his future with the Nats unsettled, Luis García Jr. went 3 for 5 on Thursday.

"I don't think anyone likes this time of year," Butera said. "I think it's a good sign that these guys don't want to leave, I think that means there's something special here, and I think we're doing a good job that these guys are not worried about it, but it's in their heads."

Thursday's loss doesn't drastically alter much for the Nationals, they still have three more games in Atlanta to fight their way up the standings before the deadline. Time, though, is starting to run out. And this one, like so many of their losses, could have easily gone their way.

Irvin was expected to be limited to around 75 pitches in his first start back since a shoulder strain sidelined him two months ago. He was efficient through the first five innings, allowing three runs. Irvin said he spent his rehab starts fine-tuning his cutter and changeup and throwing it in different counts, which he was able to translate Thursday until the sixth.

With Irvin's pitch count hovering around 50, Butera sent his starter out for the sixth, and he issued back-to-back walks. That ended his start, and Ozzie Albies hit a two-RBI single off Carson Palmquist to give the Braves a 5-3 lead.

"He was really efficient," Butera said of Irvin. "He was in the zone a ton until that sixth inning and that was also the first time he's had a sixth up since he came down."

The Nationals jumped out to a 3-0 lead after the fourth inning thanks to the solo home run from García and two from Lile. They scored one more run in the seventh inning after James Wood walked and García hit a triple. They had other chances throughout the game to add on, but went 0 for 9 with runners in scoring position, failing to move runners in critical spots.

The team needs to be more selective in those situations, Butera said, and is expanding the zone too much.

"These guys want to win so bad," Butera said. "I think everybody wants to be the hero. I love that they want it that badly, but its honing that in a little bit and understanding that you almost need to do less at those times."

Note: Left-hander Mitchell Parker underwent a ligament repair with an internal brace Wednesday. The recovery timeline is typically 12 to 15 months.

NATIONALS ON DECK

at Atlanta Braves		
Friday	7:15	Nationals.TV, WTTG (Ch. 5)
Saturday	7:15	Nationals.TV
Sunday	1:35	Nationals.TV
at Philadelphia Phillies		
Monday	6:40	Nationals.TV
Tuesday	6:40	Nationals.TV
Wednesday	6:40	Nationals.TV
Thursday	6:05	Nationals.TV
vs. Cincinnati Reds		
August 7	6:45	Nationals.TV, WTTG (Ch. 5)
August 8	6:45	Nationals.TV
August 9	12:15	NBCSN

Radio: WJFK (106.7 FM), WDCN (87.7 FM)

Infantino's equity plan fuels threat of boycott

INFANTINO FROM B7

important to sell," UEFA said in a statement. "The FIFA World Cup belongs to football. It always will. And so long as Europe has a voice, it will never be for sale."

The strategy meeting was called to counter FIFA President Infantino's offer of $20 million to each of FIFA's 211 global members that has to be accepted by mid-September.

Infantino's secret project was revealed Tuesday to spin off its commercial operations in a new $20 billion subsidiary called FIFA Forward Enterprise (FFE), of which 20 percent would be owned by private investors. The core investor would be a New York investment firm created by Joshua Kushner, the brother of President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner.

Infantino wrote Tuesday to the 211 members — already the effective owners of FIFA as a nonprofit association under Swiss law — that if they approve FFE their promised $10 million basic funding for the next four years will double to $20 million. He projected their FIFA funding through 2038 would be $86 million each, instead of about $36 million.

"This is not merely a profound failure of leadership, but an abdication of FIFA's duty as the custodian of world football," said UEFA, where Infantino was a longtime staffer and its CEO-like general secretary when he was first elected to lead FIFA in 2016.

A presidency at risk?

Infantino's high-stakes financial gambit now could threaten his previously secure 11-year presidency of FIFA as anger and frustration with him rises among soccer stakeholders, including three of the six continental bodies.

FIFA set a Nov. 18 deadline for potential candidates to declare in a presidential vote of the 211 members scheduled next March in Rabat, Morocco.

Infantino had seemed — 11 days ago after the World Cup final in East Rutherford, New Jersey — to have a clear path to being reelected unopposed for a fourth and final term in office through 2031, despite a furor over letting U.S. forward Folarin Balogun play against Belgium despite a red card in his previous game.

Soccer officials have said privately Infantino has eyed a lucrative commissioner-like role at the FFE spinoff beyond 2031.

Investor pressure concerns

UEFA detailed Thursday why soccer officials fear external investors owning a stake of the global game's biggest events.

"The moment external investors acquire ownership interests in FIFA competitions, football changes forever," UEFA said. "Commercial return becomes a permanent obligation. Investor expectations become a daily pressure."

Infantino has presented the private equity offer as a chance to "turbocharge" funding development of soccer across the world, where a majority of the 211 FIFA members rely on its funding.

Officials from about 40 UEFA members spoke at the urgent meeting, with anger expressed that FIFA is not using some of its multibillion reserves to fund extra development programs.

"As a result of today's discussion, no UEFA national teams will participate in any FIFA competition for so long as these proposals remain alive," the European soccer body said, "unless this proposal has been abandoned in its entirety and binding assurances have been given that FIFA will never again open its governance or competitions to private ownership."

Asian federation piles on

On a seismic day in soccer politics, a traditional bedrock of support in Asia for FIFA and Infantino had earlier Thursday been shaken.

"FIFA's unilateral actions appear to undermine the very foundations of continental football," the Asian Football Confederation President Sheikh Salman bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa said in a letter to its 46 members of FIFA, warning of risks to their own competitions.

Sheikh Salman, an ally to Infantino since losing the FIFA presidential election to him in 2016, wrote "such an initiative will not succeed without the support of all the confederations, which is not the case now."

In a video message published Wednesday by FIFA, Infantino insisted spinning off its moneymaking operations was "an offer, not an obligation."

SCOREBOARD

PRO BASKETBALL

WNBA

EAST	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	18	10	.643	—
Atlanta	17	10	.630	½
x-New York	16	12	.571	2
Washington	15	12	.556	2½
Toronto	10	18	.357	8
Chicago	10	18	.357	8
Connecticut	7	22	.241	11½

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	24	6	.800	—
x-Las Vegas	19	8	.704	3
Golden State	19	9	.679	3½
Dallas	18	10	.643	4½
Portland	11	17	.393	11½
Phoenix	11	18	.379	12
Los Angeles	10	17	.370	12
Seattle	6	24	.200	17½

x-Late game

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

at Washington 92, Connecticut 84
at Minnesota 100, Toronto 93
Indiana 105, at Seattle 95
at Las Vegas 98, Portland 83
New York 113, at Los Angeles 109

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 82, at Dallas 81
at Phoenix 91, Golden State 89

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

at Chicago 94, Connecticut 88
Minnesota 104, at Toronto 72
New York at Las Vegas, late

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Dallas at Washington, 7:30
Seattle at Atlanta, 7:30
Indiana at Portland, 10

SATURDAY'S GAMES

Las Vegas at Chicago, 1
New York at Phoenix, 3

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Indiana at Minnesota, 1
Los Angeles at Portland, 3:30
Connecticut at Dallas, 7
Toronto at Golden State, 8:30

MYSTICS' NEXT THREE

vs. Dallas Wings

Friday	7:30	Ion

vs. Dallas Wings

Wednesday	7:30	Monumental

vs. Atlanta Dream

August 7	7:30	Ion

Radio: WTEM (980 AM)

Lynx 104, Tempo 72

Minnesota	**18**	**32**	**31**	**23**	**— 104**
Toronto	**19**	**22**	**14**	**17**	**— 72**

MINNESOTA	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Collier	21:46	7-12	0-0	2-5	2	0	16
McBride	24:28	5-11	0-0	0-0	3	2	13
Howard	23:33	3-8	3-3	5-8	4	0	9
Miles	22:47	6-15	4-5	1-3	0	1	16
Williams	25:01	6-11	3-4	2-3	5	2	16
Juhasz	21:30	4-8	0-0	1-5	2	1	12
Caldwell	18:28	2-5	0-0	1-5	1	1	4
Delaere	15:32	3-6	0-0	0-2	3	2	7
Hamzova	13:44	2-4	1-1	2-5	4	2	5
Kosu	6:43	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	1	3
Coffey	6:28	1-1	0-0	0-0	2	1	3
TOTALS	**200**	**40-83**	**11-13**	**14-36**	**26**	**13**	**104**

Percentages: FG .482, FT .846. **3-Point Goals:** 13-29, .448 (Juhasz 4-7, McBride 3-7, Collier 2-2, Coffey 1-1, Kosu 1-1, Delaere 1-3, Williams 1-4, Caldwell 0-2, Miles 0-2). **Team Rebounds:** 12. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 5 (Collier 2, Howard 2, Juhasz). **Turnovers:** 10 (Caldwell 3, Collier 2, Coffey, Delaere, Howard, Juhasz, Kosu). **Steals:** 14 (Caldwell 4, Howard 3, McBride 2, Miles 2, Collier, Hamzova, Juhasz). **Technical Fouls:** None.

TORONTO	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Conde	27:34	2-6	0-0	0-2	2	1	5
Juskaite	29:37	7-12	3-4	0-5	3	4	19
Fagbenle	19:24	3-5	0-0	2-3	0	0	6
Allemand	22:28	0-2	0-0	0-2	6	0	0
Mabrey	27:56	6-11	2-3	0-3	4	2	16
Rice	23:00	2-9	0-0	1-4	2	3	6
Nurse	19:02	1-6	0-0	0-3	2	0	3
Sabally	13:45	4-6	1-3	1-2	0	2	10
Key	12:28	0-2	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Pouye	4:46	3-3	0-1	1-1	0	0	7
TOTALS	**200**	**28-62**	**6-11**	**6-26**	**19**	**12**	**72**

Percentages: FG .452, FT .545. **3-Point Goals:** 10-28, .357 (Juskaite 2-4, Rice 2-5, Mabrey 2-6, Pouye 1-1, Sabally 1-1, Conde 1-4, Nurse 1-4, Key 0-1, Allemand 0-2). **Team Rebounds:** 10. **Team Turnovers:** 2. **Blocked Shots:** 4 (Allemand, Fagbenle, Juskaite, Rice). **Turnovers:** 22 (Juskaite 4, Rice 4, Sabally 4, Mabrey 3, Allemand 2, Pouye 2, Conde, Fagbenle, Key). **Steals:** 6 (Allemand, Conde, Juskaite, Mabrey, Pouye, Sabally). **Technical Fouls:** None. **A:** 18,145 (19,800).

Sky 94, Sun 88

Connecticut	**26**	**23**	**17**	**22**	**— 88**
Chicago	**24**	**16**	**21**	**33**	**— 94**

CONNECTICUT	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Miller	28:27	5-13	3-3	0-3	3	5	14
Morrow	30:42	8-12	4-6	1-7	2	3	21
Nelson-Ododa	24:49	5-11	6-6	4-11	1	6	16
Lacan	28:48	4-7	3-4	2-5	6	3	12
Leger-Walker	30:01	4-11	0-0	0-1	2	1	10
Burke	20:57	2-6	2-4	0-0	2	0	7
Rivers	20:42	2-6	0-0	0-3	3	2	5
Beers	12:45	1-3	1-1	0-3	0	5	3
Angloma	2:49	0-1	0-0	1-1	1	1	0
TOTALS	**200**	**31-70**	**19-24**	**8-34**	**20**	**26**	**88**

Percentages: FG .443, FT .792. **3-Point Goals:** 7-22, .318 (Leger-Walker 2-5, Rivers 1-1, Lacan 1-2, Morrow 1-3, Burke 1-5, Miller 1-6). **Team Rebounds:** 10. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 6 (Nelson-Ododa 3, Burke, Morrow, Rivers). **Turnovers:** 16 (Nelson-Ododa 6, Leger-Walker 3, Lacan 2, Miller 2, Morrow 2, Beers). **Steals:** 10 (Nelson-Ododa 4, Lacan 2, Beers, Miller, Morrow, Rivers). **Technical Fouls:** None.

CHICAGO	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Cloud	30:46	4-8	3-3	0-0	5	0	11
Coulibaly	13:05	1-2	1-1	0-3	1	3	3
Cardoso	20:54	8-12	10-11	3-6	1	5	26
Taylor	30:47	6-12	0-0	0-2	6	1	14
Vandersloot	23:06	2-7	2-2	2-5	6	1	6
Williams	18:38	2-5	0-0	0-4	0	2	4
Bibby	18:13	3-7	0-0	0-1	2	1	8
Carrington	16:42	2-5	3-4	0-3	0	2	9
Sheldon	14:32	2-5	2-2	1-2	0	2	7
Jaquez	13:17	2-4	2-3	0-2	0	0	6
TOTALS	**200**	**32-67**	**23-26**	**6-28**	**21**	**17**	**94**

Percentages: FG .478, FT .885. **3-Point Goals:** 7-22, .318 (Carrington 2-3, Bibby 2-4, Taylor 2-7, Sheldon 1-4, Cloud 0-1, Jaquez 0-1, Vandersloot 0-2). **Team Rebounds:** 10. **Team Turnovers:** 1. **Blocked Shots:** 4 (Bibby, Carrington, Taylor, Williams). **Turnovers:** 13 (Williams 3, Cloud 2, Sheldon 2, Taylor 2, Vandersloot 2, Carrington, Coulibaly). **Steals:** 10 (Cloud 2, Bibby, Cardoso, Coulibaly, Jaquez, Sheldon, Taylor, Vandersloot, Williams). **Technical Fouls:** Cloud, 5:22 third. **A:** 7,297 (10,387).

Mercury 91, Valkyries 89

Late Wednesday

Golden State	**18**	**28**	**20**	**23**	**— 89**
Phoenix	**21**	**13**	**26**	**31**	**— 91**

GOLDEN STATE	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Thornton	24:46	2-7	0-0	4-8	2	5	6
Zandalasini	22:51	6-17	1-1	1-1	3	6	16
Stokes	18:11	1-2	0-0	0-4	0	2	2
Burton	33:45	6-10	1-1	1-3	5	5	15
Charles	28:31	4-7	0-0	5-10	2	6	10
Salaun	23:46	2-5	7-8	0-2	3	2	13
Hayes	23:22	4-12	3-5	0-3	5	4	11
Amihere	12:42	4-7	3-4	2-2	0	2	12
Chen	12:07	2-9	0-0	0-0	4	2	4
TOTALS	**200**	**31-76**	**15-19**	**13-33**	**24**	**34**	**89**

Percentages: FG .408, FT .789. **3-Point Goals:** 12-33, .364 (Zandalasini 3-6, Charles 2-3, Burton 2-5, Salaun 2-5, Thornton 2-5, Amihere 1-2, Chen 0-2, Hayes 0-5). **Team Rebounds:** 8. **Team Turnovers:** 2. **Blocked Shots:** 1 (Stokes). **Turnovers:** 7 (Chen 2, Zandalasini 2, Burton, Hayes, Salaun). **Steals:** 7 (Zandalasini 3, Charles 2, Burton, Salaun). **Technical Fouls:** Charles, 6:59 second.

PHOENIX	MIN	FG	FT	O-T	A	PF	PTS
Bonner	33:52	3-8	9-12	2-10	3	2	17
Brochant	18:56	1-2	2-2	0-0	1	0	4
Thomas	38:03	10-14	5-8	3-9	8	2	25
Akoa Makani	14:34	0-3	0-0	0-0	1	5	0
Copper	33:36	9-14	6-9	0-4	4	6	27
Ayayi	22:49	1-2	8-10	0-7	1	3	10
Mack	18:01	3-4	2-2	1-3	1	3	8
Whitcomb	12:53	0-4	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Held	7:16	0-4	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
TOTALS	**200**	**27-55**	**32-43**	**6-34**	**19**	**23**	**91**

Percentages: FG .491, FT .744. **3-Point Goals:** 5-16, .313 (Copper 3-4, Bonner 2-2, Ayayi 0-1, Brochant 0-1, Mack 0-1, Akoa Makani 0-2, Whitcomb 0-2, Held 0-3). **Team Rebounds:** 13. **Team Turnovers:** None. **Blocked Shots:** 7 (Bonner 3, Akoa Makani 2, Mack, Thomas). **Turnovers:** 10 (Thomas 4, Akoa Makani 2, Copper 2, Ayayi, Bonner). **Steals:** 3 (Ayayi, Bonner, Mack). **Technical Fouls:** Thomas, 6:59 second. **A:** 10,152 (18,422). **T:** 2:30.

SOCCER

MLS

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	12	2	3	39	33	12
Inter Miami CF	11	2	4	37	43	30
New England	9	5	2	29	26	19
Chicago	8	6	2	26	30	22
New York City FC	7	6	4	25	30	23
Charlotte FC	7	6	4	25	28	25
Cincinnati	6	6	5	23	41	42
New York	6	7	4	22	26	37
D.C. United	5	5	7	22	24	27
Orlando City	6	9	2	20	28	44
Columbus	5	8	4	19	24	26
Toronto FC	3	7	7	16	23	31
CF Montreal	4	10	3	15	22	33
Philadelphia	3	10	4	13	22	31
Atlanta	3	11	3	12	17	30

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	10	3	3	33	37	16
Los Angeles FC	10	5	3	33	34	18
San Jose	10	4	3	33	35	20
Real Salt Lake	8	6	2	26	28	24
Houston	8	6	2	26	23	24
FC Dallas	7	5	5	26	32	25
St. Louis City SC	7	6	4	25	23	23
Seattle	7	6	3	24	19	20
Minnesota United	6	6	5	23	19	24
Portland	6	8	3	21	31	32
LA Galaxy	5	7	6	21	24	29
San Diego FC	5	7	5	20	31	28
Colorado	6	10	1	19	26	25
Austin FC	4	8	5	17	22	35
Sporting KC	4	11	2	14	18	44

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

D.C. United 1, at Houston 1
at Cincinnati 4, Vancouver 3
New York City FC 2, at Columbus 1
at Miami 3, Chicago 2
Toronto FC 0, at New England 0
at Philadelphia 3, New York 1
Atlanta 2, at Charlotte FC 2
at Sporting KC 2, Minnesota 1
at Nashville 1, CF Montreal 0
at Austin FC 3, Seattle 1
at Colorado 1, San Diego FC 0
St. Louis City SC 3, at LA Galaxy 1
at Los Angeles FC 3, Real Salt Lake 1
FC Dallas 2, at Portland 2
Orlando City 4, at San Jose 0

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

at D.C. United 2, Toronto FC 1
Charlotte FC 2, at New York 0
at Columbus 2, Cincinnati 1
Miami 1, at CF Montreal 0
at New England 4, Atlanta 1
at New York City FC 3, Chicago 1
at Philadelphia 1, Seattle 0
at Houston 3, Austin FC 0
Vancouver 0, at Minnesota 0
at St. Louis City SC 1, Colorado 0
at Orlando City 1, Nashville 0
at San Diego FC 1, FC Dallas 0
at Los Angeles FC 4, Sporting KC 0
at Portland 2, Real Salt Lake 1
LA Galaxy 1, at San Jose 1

FRIDAY'S MATCH

Toronto FC at New York City FC, 7:30

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

Nashville at D.C. United, 7:30
San Jose at Cincinnati, 7:30
Columbus at Miami, 7:30
New England at CF Montreal, 7:30
Orlando City at New York, 7:30
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7:30
Los Angeles FC at Vancouver, 7:30
Charlotte FC at Chicago, 8:30
Houston at Sporting KC, 8:30
San Diego FC at Minnesota, 8:30
Real Salt Lake at St. Louis City SC, 8:30
Austin FC at Colorado, 9:30
FC Dallas at LA Galaxy, 10:30
Seattle at Portland, 10:45

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	11	3	3	36	26	12
Gotham FC	10	3	4	34	22	12
Utah	9	5	3	30	26	18
San Diego	9	6	2	29	23	19
Portland	8	5	4	28	27	20
Kansas City	9	7	1	28	28	24
Orlando	7	8	2	23	22	21
Angel City	7	7	1	22	23	16
North Carolina	6	6	3	21	21	23
Seattle	6	7	2	20	17	19
Denver	5	6	4	19	21	20
Houston	5	7	4	19	19	24
Boston	5	8	4	19	18	23
Bay FC	5	8	3	18	16	21
Chicago	4	12	0	12	8	31
Louisville	3	11	2	11	19	33

FRIDAY'S RESULTS

at Houston 1, Bay FC 0
at Orlando 1, Chicago 0
Gotham FC 2, at Portland 2

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

at Boston 1, Kansas City 0
Utah 4, at North Carolina 1

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

at Washington 1, Denver 0
Seattle 2, at San Diego 0
Louisville 2, at Angel City 1

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Washington 1, at Utah 0
at Kansas City 5, Louisville 1
Gotham FC 1, at Bay FC 0

FRIDAY'S MATCH

Orlando at North Carolina, 8

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

Chicago at Louisville, 4
Angel City at Kansas City, 6:30
Gotham FC at Houston, 8
Seattle at Bay FC, 8:45

SUNDAY'S MATCHES

San Diego at Washington, 4
Portland at Utah, 7
Boston at Denver, 9

WEDNESDAY'S MATCH

North Carolina at Denver, 10

USL Championship

EAST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	10	2	5	35	28	15
Charleston	8	6	3	27	32	24
Detroit City FC	8	5	3	27	23	15
Louisville	8	6	3	27	28	26
Pittsburgh	7	8	2	23	19	20
Rhode Island FC	6	5	4	22	25	18
Miami	5	7	6	21	22	29
Indy	6	6	3	21	18	17
Hartford	4	4	8	20	12	14
Loudoun	2	5	9	15	19	29
Birmingham	2	6	8	14	17	21
Brooklyn FC	3	9	4	13	17	27
Sporting Jax	1	12	5	8	23	46

WEST	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Orange County	8	2	7	31	27	19
San Antonio	7	3	7	28	22	19
Tulsa	7	4	5	26	19	16
Colorado Springs	7	5	4	25	28	23
New Mexico	7	4	3	24	19	15
Sacramento	6	4	5	23	19	15
Lexington SC	6	6	4	22	24	20
El Paso	6	6	4	22	27	25
Oakland	5	6	6	21	25	27
Phoenix	5	6	6	21	23	24
Las Vegas	6	7	3	21	24	26
Monterey Bay FC	4	10	3	15	17	27

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

at Lexington SC 2, Oakland 0
at Colorado 2, Miami 0

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

San Antonio 1, at Brooklyn FC 0
Las Vegas 1, at Detroit City FC 0
Loudoun 1, at Indy 0
Tampa Bay 3, at Miami 2
Rhode Island FC 1, at Pittsburgh 0
Lexington SC 0, at Tulsa 0
at Colorado 2, Charleston 1
at El Paso 2, Sporting Jax 0
Orange County 2, at Monterey Bay FC 1
Sacramento 3, at Oakland 1
Hartford 0, at Phoenix 0
New Mexico at Birmingham, ppd.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Tulsa 1, Pittsburgh 0
Louisville 2, Birmingham 1

FRIDAY'S MATCH

Indy at San Antonio, 9

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

Monterey Bay FC at Lexington SC, 7
Hartford at Loudoun, 7
Detroit City FC at Miami, 7
Brooklyn FC at Charleston, 7:30
Rhode Island FC at Birmingham, 8
Louisville at Tampa Bay, 8
Colorado at New Mexico, 9:30
Pittsburgh at Oakland, 10
El Paso at Orange County, 10
Phoenix at Las Vegas, 10:30
Sporting Jax at Sacramento, 11

WEDNESDAY'S MATCHES

Sacramento at Tulsa, 8:30
Monterey Bay FC at El Paso, 9
Oakland at Las Vegas, 10:30

TENNIS

DC Open

At William H.G. FitzGerald Tennis Center
Purse: $2,488,125
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

MEN'S SINGLES — ROUND OF 16

Brandon Nakashima, United States, def. Jakub Mensik (7), Czech Republic, 7-6 (7-5), 3-6, 6-4; Alex de Minaur (1), Australia, def. Cruz Hewitt, Australia, 6-2, 6-3; Alejandro Tabilo, Chile, def. Terence Atmane, France, 6-3, 7-6 (8-6); Ben Shelton (2), United States, def. Ugo Humbert, France, 6-7 (7-3), 6-3, 6-4.

WOMEN'S SINGLES — ROUND OF 16

Anna Kalinskaya (5), Russia, def. Janice Tjen, Indonesia, 1-6, 6-3, 7-6 (9-7); Jessica Pegula (1), United States, def. Magdalena Frech, Poland, 3-6, 6-3, 6-0; Diana Shnaider (4), Russia, def. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 6-1, 6-2.

MEN'S DOUBLES — QUARTERFINALS

Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, and Hugo Nys, Monaco, def. Guido Andreozzi, Argentina, and Manuel Guinard (4), France, 2-6, 6-3, 10-8; Ariel Behar, Uruguay, and Anirudh Chandrasekar, India, def. Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori (1), Italy, 6-4, 5-7, 11-9.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES — QUARTERFINALS

Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, and Makoto Ninomiya, Japan, def. Sara Errani, Italy, and Nicole Melichar-Martinez (1), United States, 1-6, 7-6 (7-3), 12-10.

ATP

MIFEL TENNIS OPEN

At Solaz Resort & Spa Los Cabos (Mexico)
Purse: $909,790
Surface: Hardcourt outdoor

SINGLES — ROUND OF 16

Jenson Brooksby, United States, def. Edward Winter, Australia, 6-3, 6-4; Francisco Cerundolo (3), Argentina, def. Tristan Boyer, United States, 6-7 (7-4), 4-3, ret; Coleman Wong, Hong Kong, China, def. Jiri Lehecka (1), Czech Republic, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4; Denis Shapovalov (8), Canada, def. Rodrigo Pacheco Mendez, Mexico, 6-3, 6-2; Arthur Gea, France, def. Michael Zheng, United States, 0-6, 6-4, 6-0; Bernard Tomic, Australia, def. Karen Khachanov (4), Russia, 6-2, 6-4; Dalibor Svrcina, Czech Republic, def. Luciano Darderi (2), Italy, 3-0, ret; Cameron Norrie (5), Britain, def. James Duckworth, Australia, 6-4, 6-4.

DOUBLES — ROUND OF 16

Pruchya Isaro, Thailand, and Joshua Paris, Britain, def. Ji Sung Nam, South Korea, and Takeru Yuzuki, Japan, 6-3, 6-4; Reese Stalder, United States, and Rinky Hijikata, Australia, def. Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela, Mexico, and Ivan Liutarevich, Belarus, 6-3, 4-6, 10-8; Alan Magadan and Luis Carlos Alvarez Valdes, Mexico, def. Bernard Tomic, Australia, and Dalibor Svrcina, Czech Republic, walkover; Rafael Matos and Orlando Luz (2), Brazil, def. Santiago Gonzalez and Rodrigo Pacheco Mendez, Mexico, 6-3, 6-3.

ATP Rankings

Through Tuesday.

SINGLES

1. Jannik Sinner, Italy, 13450
2. Alexander Zverev, Germany, 8480
3. Carlos Alcaraz, Spain, 8160
4. Felix Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 4740
5. Novak Djokovic, Serbia, 3760
6. Alex de Minaur, Australia, 3660
7. Daniil Medvedev, Russia, 3620
8. Ben Shelton, USA, 3580
9. Flavio Cobolli, Italy, 3420
10. Taylor Fritz, USA, 3300
11. Alexander Bublik, Kazakhstan, 2525
12. Jiri Lehecka, Czech Republic, 2470
13. Casper Ruud, Norway, 2435
14. Andrey Rublev, Russia, 2420
15. Lorenzo Musetti, Italy, 2315
16. Learner Tien, USA, 2245
17. Jakub Mensik, Czech Republic, 2205
18. Valentin Vacherot, Monaco, 2188
19. Frances Tiafoe, USA, 2180
20. Francisco Cerundolo, Argentina, 2060
21. Tommy Paul, USA, 2025
22. Arthur Fils, France, 1990
23. Luciano Darderi, Italy, 1975
24. Rafael Jodar, Spain, 1927
25. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, Spain, 1880
26. Karen Khachanov, Russia, 1780
27. Joao Fonseca, Brazil, 1710
28. Arthur Rinderknech, France, 1633
29. Ugo Humbert, France, 1575
30. Alejandro Tabilo, Chile, 1558
31. Tomas Martin Etcheverry, Argentina, 1510
32. Alexander Blockx, Belgium, 1376
33. Brandon Nakashima, USA, 1360
34. Ignacio Buse, Peru, 1350
35. Matteo Arnaldi, Italy, 1349
36. Zizou Bergs, Belgium, 1340
37. Arthur Fery, Great Britain, 1285
38. Raphael Collignon, Belgium, 1234
39. Cameron Norrie, Great Britain, 1165
40. Alex Michelsen, USA, 1165

DOUBLES

1. Harri Heliovaara, Finland, 9960
1. Henry Patten, Great Britain, 9960
3. Horacio Zeballos, Argentina, 7400
4. Marcel Granollers, Spain, 7310
5. Neal Skupski, Great Britain, 7050
6. Andrea Vavassori, Italy, 5090
7. Marcelo Arevalo, El Salvador, 5050
8. Mate Pavic, Croatia, 5050
9. Kevin Krawietz, Germany, 5010
10. Tim Putz, Germany, 4830

WTA Rankings

Through Tuesday.

SINGLES

1. Aryna Sabalenka, Belarus, 8550
2. Elena Rybakina, Kazakhstan, 8056
3. Jessica Pegula, USA, 6300
4. Coco Gauff, USA, 5649
5. Mirra Andreeva, Russia, 5293
6. Karolina Muchova, Czech Republic, 5168
7. Linda Noskova, Czech Republic, 5016
8. Iga Swiatek, Poland, 4539
9. Amanda Anisimova, USA, 4353
10. Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, 4351
11. Marta Kostyuk, Ukraine, 3925
12. Victoria Mboko, Canada, 3520
13. Naomi Osaka, Japan, 3086
14. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 2845
15. Jasmine Paolini, Italy, 2783
16. Iva Jovic, USA, 2636
17. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 2502
18. Diana Shnaider, Russia, 2458
19. Ekaterina Alexandrova, Russia, 2301
20. Anna Kalinskaya, Russia, 2007
21. Maja Chwalinska, Poland, 1975
22. Madison Keys, USA, 1964
23. Elise Mertens, Belgium, 1948
24. Marie Bouzkova, Czech Republic, 1829
25. Barbora Krejcikova, Czech Republic, 1776
26. Emma Navarro, USA, 1674
27. Anastasia Potapova, Russia, 1667
28. Alexandra Eala, Philippines, 1666
29. Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 1592
30. Clara Tauson, Denmark, 1564
31. Ann Li, USA, 1541
32. Hailey Baptiste, USA, 1372
33. Maria Sakkari, Greece, 1355
34. Leylah Fernandez, Canada, 1344
35. Donna Vekic, Croatia, 1326
36. Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 1285
37. Janice Tjen, Indonesia, 1282
38. Sara Bejlek, Czech Republic, 1269
39. Jaqueline Cristian, Romania, 1256
40. Cristina Bucsa, Spain, 1244

DOUBLES

1. Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 10150
2. Taylor Townsend, USA, 9300
3. Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, 8805
4. Luisa Stefani, Brazil, 7445
5. Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 6950
6. Anna Danilina, Kazakhstan, 6775
7. Elise Mertens, Belgium, 5438
8. Zhang Shuai, China, 5328
9. Hanyu Guo, China, 4780
10. Sara Errani, Italy, 4625

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

POINTS LEADERS

Through Monday.

1. Denny Hamlin, 886.
2. Tyler Reddick, 802.
3. Ryan Blaney, 766.
4. Ty Gibbs, 751.
5. Carson Hocevar, 638.
6. Chase Elliott, 635.
7. Chase Briscoe, 623.
8. Kyle Larson, 617.
9. Chris Buescher, 613.
10. Christopher Bell, 609.
11. Daniel Suárez, 583.
12. William Byron, 568.
13. Joey Logano, 545.
14. Bubba Wallace, 540.
15. Shane Van Gisbergen, 537.
16. Austin Cindric, 518.
17. Ryan Preece, 480.
18. Erik Jones, 474.
19. Brad Keselowski, 468.
20. Michael McDowell, 442.
21. Ross Chastain, 436.
22. AJ Allmendinger, 409.
23. Todd Gilliland, 406.
24. Zane Smith, 393.
25. Riley Herbst, 370.
26. Ricky Stenhouse Jr, 364.
27. John H. Nemechek, 355.
28. Austin Dillon, 349.
29. Alex Bowman, 310.
30. Cole Custer, 270.
31. Noah Gragson, 268.
32. Ty Dillon, 266.
33. Josh Berry, 264.
34. Connor Zilisch, 216.
35. Cody Ware, 183.
36. Casey Mears, 12.
37.

The Washington Post
METRO
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026 EZ RE

ELIZABETH LIPFORD, 2024/COURTESY OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

The property at Windsor Shades in Virginia was recently sold to the Pamunkey Indian Tribe. The area is part of their ancestral homeland.

Their land was taken. Now they're getting it back.

TIMOTHY C. WRIGHT/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A sign directs visitors to the museum on the Pamunkey reservation in Virginia.

TIMOTHY C. WRIGHT/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Kevin Brown, chief of the Pamunkey tribe, stands outside his wood workshop on the tribal reservation.

The Pamunkey tribe regained a piece of its ancestral homeland in a $1.9 million deal

BY DANA HEDGPETH

The 13 acres overlooking the river that bears their name have long been a part of the Pamunkey Indian Tribe's ancestral homeland.

The land in King William County, Virginia, was taken from them centuries ago, but through a recent $1.9 million deal, the tribe regained ownership and plans to expand its cultural and economic presence in the region.

The return of the land marks a milestone for the Pamunkey tribe, which gained federal recognition in 2015 and has roughly 530 enrolled members. The purchase also reflects a broader movement by Native nations across the country to reclaim territorial lands lost through broken treaties, forced dispossession and private acquisition.

Known as Windsor Shades estate, the property — about two hours south of Washington — has a long history. It was for centuries one of several villages where Pamunkey chiefs lived, and it was called Kupkipcock in the Powhatan Algonquin language. English explorer John Smith documented it in an early 1600s map of Native American villages. The property later became a Revolutionary War landmark. It remained in private ownership for decades.

"This is land that was taken from us in the 17th century, and getting it back now is righting a historical wrong," said Ashley Atkins Spivey, a citizen of the Pamunkey tribe and an anthropologist. "This land was ours for thousands and thousands of years, and the non-Indigenous occupation of it is a blip in time, compared to the relationship and connection our people have to it."

Officials with the Pamunkey tribe said they're considering plans to use the land to provide cultural, educational and economic opportunities, possibly using it as an event space or partnering with an operator to host wine tastings.

When the deal closed in May, Pamunkey Chief Kevin Brown said that the purchase was "more than a real estate transaction; it is an act of historical recognition and cultural preservation."

Two other Virginia tribes have also recently regained pieces of their homelands. The Rappahannock tribe closed a deal for 700 acres, part of a decade-long effort to reclaim more than 2,000 acres in an area known as Fones Cliffs in Richmond County. Earlier this month, Virginia Gov. Abigail Spanberger signed an agreement placing 28 acres of land in King William County that were once part of the Mattaponi Indian Tribe's original land into a state trust for the tribe.

At Windsor Shades, archaeological evidence shows that the Pamunkeys occupied the site long before English settlers arrived. Pamunkey tribal chiefs, including Opechancanough — the younger brother of Powhatan, one of the most famous and powerful Native chiefs on the East Coast — lived there with their families. Nearby, other Pamunkey communities helped produce food and paid tribute to the chiefs and their families.

Smith referred to the village as "a king house" in his writings and on his map, historians said.

"It's profoundly meaningful that this property is returning to the Pamunkey tribe," said Jennie Dotts, the Long & Foster real estate agent who represented the tribe. "It was their land originally, and now it is theirs once again. That's a satisfying sense of history coming full circle."

Around 1640, the property Windsor Shades became part of a roughly 5,000-acre land grant awarded to English settler William Claiborne by the Virginia colony after his forces defeated the Pamunkeys in battle, according to historians and the real estate company involved in the sale.

Built in the mid-1700s, the house on the property is one of Virginia's best-preserved examples of an 18th-century Tidewater structure. The property became well-known in the 1750s after a ferry was established there and a tavern opened in the

SEE PAMUNKEY ON B14

Army veteran files claim

SHE WAS DETAINED IN D.C. IN MAY

Her representation seeks $3 million in damages

BY BEN CONARCK

Attorneys for a combat veteran who displayed protest signs decrying the National Guard patrolling her neighborhood said in a court filing that there was no legal basis for three troops to enter the front gate to her home and "violently" detain her in an encounter that sparked a viral video.

But D.C. police reports relating to the incident and the National Guard claim the veteran was confronted by troops because they suspected her of dousing other Guard troops with an unknown liquid two days earlier.

The American Civil Liberties Union of the District of Columbia and private law firm Levy Firestone Muse filed a federal tort claim on Wednesday on behalf of retired U.S. Army captain Anna King, who they say received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for her service in Iraq. They are seeking $3 million in damages

SEE CLAIM FILED ON B14

D.C. once had a famous raccoon

Rebecca was President Calvin Coolidge's mischievous pet

BY MAIA NEHME

A century before a Seattle raccoon with an unusual gait came on the scene, the nation's capital had a beloved raccoon of its own.

The mania over Seattle's Jimothy — whom wildlife experts suspect has a spinal abnormality — prompted the Library of Congress to spotlight Rebecca, the mischievous pet of President Calvin Coolidge.

Gifted in 1926 by a Mississippi

SEE RACCOON ON B14

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

First lady Grace Coolidge holding Rebecca.

TODAY'S WEATHER

8 a.m.	Noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.
74°	84°	89°	84°

High today at approx. 5 p.m.: **90°**
Precip: **0%** Wind: **NNW 6-12 mph**

For weather news, go to B18

OBITUARIES

At washingtonpost.com/obituaries, learn about people around the world.

Pamunkey tribe officials weigh plans for 13 acres in Va.

PAMUNKEY FROM **B13**

English basement of the house, with an outside stairway entrance. Historians believe that George Washington stopped regularly at the tavern while traveling between Mount Vernon and Williamsburg, based on a dozen entries in his diaries.

In 1781, the Marquis de Lafayette and his troops crossed the Pamunkey River at Ruffin's Ferry on the property before heading to the Battle of Yorktown.

Windsor Shades, about 15 minutes from the tribe's reservation, later became a tobacco plantation and was eventually placed under a historic easement. The five-bedroom brick house features several chimneys. The spot where the tavern was is now a dining room and contains what Dotts said is one of Virginia's largest interior fireplaces, with an eight-foot opening. Dotts said she specializes in historic properties and "rarely comes across one so historically intact and meticulously preserved."

Windsor Shades is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is named as a Virginia historic landmark.

TIMOTHY C. WRIGHT/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Kevin Brown, chief of the Pamunkey tribe, in his home. His ceremonial headdress is in the foreground of the photo.

The sale came about after one of Atkins Spivey's research associates, who serves on a local historical board and is married to a Pamunkey tribal member, learned that Carl and Lynn Fischer, who had owned Windsor Shades since the late 1990s, planned to put it on the market. Brown, the tribal chief, became involved in the spring.

Tribal leaders said it is unfortunate that so much time passed before they were able to reacquire Windsor Shades, but they are relieved to have it back in Native hands.

"It took so long because we were dealing with massive amounts of European colonial expansion, and we didn't have the capacity to fight that army of invaders," Atkins Spivey said. "While we've been able to survive, we didn't have the funds or resources to buy a piece of land back until recently. Now we have the economic capacity to do that."

A veteran who was detained outside her D.C. home is taking legal action

CLAIM FILED FROM **B13**

from what they described as an assault on May 8 that led to lasting injuries.

In their filing, King's attorneys disputed the suggestion that her confrontation with the troops stemmed from their client being identified as a suspect in an assault on other Guard members that allegedly occurred outside her home two days earlier.

The attorneys wrote that the explanation, which was relayed by a D.C. police officer to a neighbor and is mentioned in police reports, was "baseless."

"The only apparent reason the Guards targeted Ms. King was her speech, via the prominent signs in her window, criticizing their presence in the District," her attorneys wrote in the filing.

Those signs had messages such as "Occupation: Troops Out" and "National Guard Stop Being So Embarrassing," according to the filing.

A police report on that May 6 incident said that three National Guard members called for a police response after someone "threw an unknown liquid at them soaking their uniforms" then "fled inside her home before officers arrived on the scene."

In response to questions about the report, Michael Perloff, a senior attorney at the ACLU of D.C., said in a statement that King "didn't commit the actions she's accused of, but never charged with, as the circumstances surrounding her detention illustrate."

Perloff added that troops "did not possess a warrant authorizing entry onto the property," on May 8 nor were they "authorized to conduct the type of in-person search and enforcement actions that allegedly occurred involving District residents."

King's attorneys said their client suffered injuries from excessively tight plastic handcuffs used by the National Guard members that they say cut off circulation for about 17 minutes and continue to restrict her ability to use her dominant hand. The filing says King suffered injuries to other parts of her body as well.

A spokesperson for the National Guard's Joint Task Force-D.C. said he was aware of the legal claim and that King was recognized from the alleged assault on May 6.

"The service members detained the individual and notified the Metropolitan Police Department, who responded and made the arrest," said the spokesperson, Staff Sgt. Noah Carlson.

King is facing two charges of assaulting a police officer stemming from the May 8 encounter, according to court records. A filing explaining those charges said officers who responded to the scene were aware of the assault that had been reported days earlier and referenced the tracking number from the police report documenting it.

"Officers were able to contact the three National Guard victims from the May 6, 2026 assault, who responded to the scene," the charging document said, adding that the three service members all separately identified King as the person who threw the liquid at them two days earlier.

ANNA KING

A protest sign at Anna King's home in D.C., where she was confronted by National Guard troops.

The filing went on to say that King was arrested for assault on a police officer "and the previous assault on police officers."

Last month, a video of troops detaining King before her May 8 arrest went viral. It showed the veteran sitting quietly on a bench outside her home and scrolling on her phone when troops first arrived.

The video then cuts out for a period and picks back up with three Guard members surrounding King, who appears to be holding a sign in front of her home. King attempts to move past the troops back into her home.

"You have absolutely no authority to detain me," King can be heard telling the troops in the video.

Shortly afterward, the troops begin physically struggling with King to bring her to the ground. One member can be seen kneeling on top of King while another rushes to his side to help detain her. The third Guard troop appears to pull out a cellphone and makes a call as King cries out in distress.

In a video interview posted by the ACLU of D.C., King said she was trying to "get back into the safety of my home when the three of them spin me to the ground, slam me on the ground, forcefully put my hands into plastic cuffs, and end up injuring and hurting me."

"I pleaded for them to take them off, and instead I got two grown National Guard men, one sitting on me and one putting their full weight with their knee into my back," King said in the video.

King said that on May 1, she put up a large sign outside her home protesting the Guard's presence that she suspected drew the ire of patrolling troops.

"I think that's the only reason they came onto my property that day, to quiet me and to make me afraid to speak out about it," she said.

King said her rotator cuff was injured, ankle was swollen, and that a ligament was ruptured in her hand due to the tightness of the plastic cuffs used to detain her. That last injury, she said, required surgery, eight to 12 weeks of wearing a cast, and pins and screws placed in her wrist.

"The emotional and psychological trauma that happens being a combat veteran, having served in war, to then be abused and assaulted by National Guardsmen at home, has decreased my ability to sleep again. I'm having nightmares daily," she said in the ACLU video, vowing that she would continue to protest.

A spokesperson for the Idaho National Guard, which is named as a defendant in the legal claim, said he could not comment on it because it's pending litigation.

"We're committed to professionalism and the accountability of our service members, and we take this really serious and we're going to cooperate with the proper authorities and legal authorities," said Idaho National Guard spokesperson Lt. Col. Christopher Borders.

The Washington Post
SUNDAY PREVIEW

ARTS & STYLE

The bruising humanity of Jon Bernthal.
Endearingly brash and undeniably introspective, the actor and Washingtonian reflects on the city where he was born and raised, and where his scrappier side was forged.

TRAVEL

How to vacation happier.
To avoid the common missteps that can make your vacation less enjoyable, we offer five science-backed ways to boost the benefit of your break.

BUSINESS

Your next stove could save you money.
Within a few years, water heaters, dryers and heat pumps may all come with batteries included that store electricity and talk to the grid.

N0280 2x8

*Some stories may not run due to breaking news

Did you *hear* The Post today?
wpost.com/podcasts
S0263 1x2.75

Long before Seattle's Jimothy came on the scene, D.C. had a beloved raccoon

RACCOON FROM **B13**

man for the president's Thanksgiving dinner, the raccoon quickly won over the first couple. Rebecca accompanied her owners to White House events and on vacations. She enjoyed playing with soap in the bathtub.

The raccoon was also notorious for her rebellious streak. She often fled from her owners, garnering amused headlines in local newspapers. A December 1927 Evening Star article, which the Library of Congress shared on X, reported that Rebecca had "disgraced herself" through a midnight escapade.

Apart from a March 1927 sojourn to a local zoo — which a pet historian attributed to the raccoon biting the president — Rebecca lived at the White House through Coolidge's presidency. Her owners then donated her to the zoo.

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DEATH NOTICE

GOLDKIND

FRIEDA GOLDKIND

On Wednesday, July 29, 2026, FRIEDA GOLDKIND of Plantation, FL, formerly of Silver Spring and Bethesda, MD. Beloved wife of the late Aaron S. Goldkind. Devoted mother of Abby (Jim) Brooks, Barry Goldkind and Debbie (Robert) McNally. Loving grandmother of Kevin Lotenberg, Rachel (David) Sammartano and Bobby McNally. Dear great-grandmother of Jessica, Jake, Nadia, Aidan and Isabella Lotenberg and Hayden, Luke and Dylan Sammartano. Graveside funeral services will be held on Sunday, August 2, 2026, 10 am at B'nai Israel Congregation Cemetery, Oxon Hill, MD. Memorial contributions may be made to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, https://www.ushmm.org or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, https://www.stjude.org. Arrangements entrusted to TORCHINSKY HEBREW FUNERAL HOME, 202-541-1001.

HOUSTON

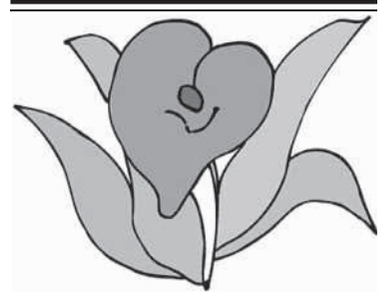
ANN ELIZABETH HOUSTON

Ann Elizabeth Houston (Taylor) passed on July 24, 2026. She was born to James and Helen Taylor on February 13, 1931, in Washington DC. She graduated from Dunbar High school in 1948. Attending Minor's Teachers College for her bachelor's degree, she then received her master's degree in education from NYU. Ann spent 30 years as an educator within the DC Public School system, most notably River Terrace Elementary. Viewing be on Monday August 3, 2026 at 10 am, until time of Homegoing service at 11 am at Plymouth Congregational Church, 5301 North Capital St. N.E. Interment, Lincoln Memorial Cemetery.
www.mcguire-services.com

JOHNSON

ELEANOR BATE JOHNSON "Ellie" (Age 93)

Eleanor Bate Kingsley Johnson passed away peacefully on July 13, 2026, in Sacramento, California, at the age of 93.
Born June 13, 1933, in Ridgewood, New Jersey, Ellie was the daughter of John L. and Eleanor M. Bate. She grew up in Portland, Oregon, attended Lincoln High School and The Catlin Gabel School, and later studied at Mills College, Pomona College, and American University, where she earned a master's degree in Public Health Administration.
Ellie married Daniel T. Kingsley, and together they raised six children: Daniel Jr., Clay, Blake, Christopher, Elizabeth, and Reed. Following the family's move to Bethesda, Maryland, she began a career at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. In 1992, she married Lee Johnson, and they enjoyed homes in Portland, Tumalo, Oregon, and Palm Springs, California.
Known for her warmth, elegance, and impeccable eye for design, Ellie loved playing the harp, antiquing, and spending time with friends and family.
She is survived by her six children; her grandchildren Blake Jr., George, Caroline, Courtney, Sonia, Lane, Danny, Reed, Conrad, Gwyneth, Eleanor, Sloane Kingsley, Claire Huntsman, Eliza Kingsley-Rutstein, and step-granddaughters Natalie and Angela McCurdy; and her great-granddaughter, Gwenivere Huntsman.
A memorial service will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2026, at 10 am at the Chapel at East Lawn Memorial in Sacramento, California.



DEATH NOTICE

RABIN

HARRIET KAHN RABIN (Age 98)

Harriet Kahn Rabin, born July 6th, 1928, daughter of Larry and Margaret Kahn, loving mother to Mark Rabin, Bruce Rabin, Joyce Rossnan, Judy Reines, and Scott Rabin, grandmother to 13 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren passed away at 98 on July 28th, 2026.
Harriet and her devoted husband Manny Rabin raised their family in Bethesda, Maryland for 68 years.
Her final moments were spent peacefully in her home in Rockville, Maryland, surrounded by family and loving, devoted aids. Harriet was known for her loving personality and positive attitude and great love for her family and friends. She was also passionately devoted to her community engagement. Harriet will be dearly missed by all who knew her.
Memorial services will be held on Sunday, August 2nd at 1 pm at King David Memorial Chapel, 7482 Lee Highway, Falls Church, VA 22042. The burial to follow immediately at the cemetery.
Shiva to follow burial service at the home of Mark & Barbara Rabin. Minyan service on Sunday evening at 7:30 pm at the Rabin residence.
Donations in her honor can be made to: Dementia Society of America or Johns Hopkins Pancreatic Cancer Research.

TAYLOR

SCOTT E. TAYLOR
07/04/1971 – 07/28/2026

Officers and members of IBEW Local 26 are hereby notified of the death of Brother Scott E. Taylor. Our condolences are extended to his family and friends.

When the need arises, let families find you in the Funeral Services Directory.

To be seen in the Funeral Services Directory, please call paid Death Notices at 202-334-4122.

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FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

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815 Legal Notices

Newspaper Notice

Department of Justice
Antitrust Division

Take notice that the United States has filed a proposed Final Judgment in a civil antitrust case in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, United States of America, et al. v. OhioHealth Corporation, Civil Action No. 2:26-cv-207. On February 20, 2026 the United States filed a Complaint alleging that OhioHealth Corporation's use of anticompetitive contract provisions in its contracts with payors violated Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. The proposed Final Judgment, filed on June 16, 2026, requires OhioHealth Corporation to void existing contract provisions that prohibit or deter insurers from offering budget-conscious health insurance plans or plan features and prevents OhioHealth from seeking or obtaining such contract provisions in the future, among other things. A Competitive Impact Statement filed by the United States on July 15, 2026, describes the Complaint, the proposed Final Judgment, the industry, and the remedies.

Copies of the Complaint, proposed Final Judgment, and Competitive Impact Statement are available for inspection on the Antitrust Division's website at http://www.justice.gov/atr and at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court named above.

Interested persons may address comments in English to Jill Maguire, Acting Chief, Healthcare and Consumer Products Section, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, 450 Fifth Street NW, Suite 4100, Washington, DC 20530 (email address: ATR.Public-Comments-Tunney-Act- MB@usdoj.gov) within 60 days of the first publication date of this notice. Such comments, including the name of the submitter, and responses thereto will be posted on the Antitrust Division's website, filed with the Court, and, under certain circumstances, published in the Federal Register.

Newspaper Notice

Department of Justice
Antitrust Division

Take notice that the United States has filed a proposed Final Judgment in a civil antitrust case in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, *United States of America v. Edwards LifeSciences Corp. and Genesis Medtech Group Limited,* Civil Action No. 1:26-cv-02450. On July 13, 2026, the United States filed a Complaint alleging that Edwards' acquisition of JC Medical, Inc. from Genesis violated the HSR Act, 15, U.S.C. § 18a. The proposed Final Judgment, filed at the same time as the Complaint, requires Edwards to pay a civil penalty of $10 million dollars, institute an antitrust compliance program, and to provide the FTC notice prior to acquiring any part of a firm that is selling or conducting clinical trials in the United States for a transcatheter aortic valve replacement for aortic regurgitation ("TAVR-AR") device. The proposed Final Judgment also requires Genesis to pay a civil penalty of $2 million dollars. A Competitive Impact Statement filed by the United States on July 13, 2026, describes the Complaint, the proposed Final Judgment, the industry, and the remedies available to private litigants who may have been injured by the alleged violation.

Copies of the Complaint, proposed Final Judgment, and Competitive Impact Statement are available for inspection on the Antitrust Division's website at <http://www.justice.gov/atr> and at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court named above.

Interested persons may address comments in English to Maribeth Petrizzi, Special Attorney, United States, c/o Federal Trade Commission, Bureau of Competition, Compliance Division, GAO-5T57, Org Code 1031, GAO-5K21, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580 (email address: bccompliance@ftc.gov) within 60 days of the first publication date of this notice. Such comments, including the name of the submitter, and responses thereto will be posted on the Antitrust Division's website, filed with the Court, and, under certain circumstances, published in the *Federal Register.*

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815 Legal Notices

ABC LICENSE: ONS GROUP LLC trading as DHOOM 11776 FAIR OAKS MALL, SITE M216, FAIRFAX (FAIRFAX County) VA 22033. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a RETAIL RESTAURANT- RESTAURANT, WINE, BEER, MIXED BEVERAGES, CONSUMED ON PREMISES license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. RAHUL ARORA - OWNER **NOTE:** Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552- 3200.

ABC LICENSE: Woodland Park Road LLC trading as Woodland Park Road LLC, 13341 Woodland Park Road, (Fairfax County) Herndon Virginia 20171. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Hotel with Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Mark Carrier, President. **NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552- 3200.**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS
September 15, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.
Deadline to register to speak is September 14 at 2:00 p.m.
Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 26-11, Temporary Uses - Benefit Performance, would remove the neighborhood consent requirement for a Benefit Performance; require notification to public safety agencies for a Benefit Performance; and generally amend the standards for a Benefit Performance.
Residents must register in advance to provide testimony in person or virtually at a public hearing in the Council hearing room at the Council office building and may submit written and prerecorded audio and video via www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/testify.html or by calling 240-777-7803. Additionally, written testimony may be mailed to Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th floor, MD 20850. For information, please call 240-777-7900 or visit the Council's website.

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815 Legal Notices

There is now pending before the **District of Columbia Superior Court** an action, case number **2025-CAB-008530** seeking to affect title to the property now or formerly owned by Gerald K. Cole, located at **5539 Bass Place SE, Washington, D.C. 20019**. A copy of the action is available in the Clerk's office of the Court. A written answer, including any claims or defenses must be filed with the District of Columbia Superior Court Civil Branch, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before the **9th day of October, 2026**.

There is now pending before the **District of Columbia Superior Court** an action, case number **2025-CAB-008346** seeking to affect title to the property now or formerly owned by Norma Williams, located at **750 Princeton Place NW, Washington, D.C. 20010**. A copy of the action is available in the Clerk's office of the Court. A written answer, including any claims or defenses must be filed with the District of Columbia Superior Court Civil Branch, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before the **9th day of October, 2026**.

There is now pending before the **District of Columbia Superior Court** an action, case number **2026-CAB-000194** seeking to affect title to the property now or formerly owned by Ella B. Evans Harrington Living Trust dated October 15, 2010, Estate of Ella B. Evans Harrington, located at **3101 24th Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20018**. A copy of the action is available in the Clerk's office of the Court. A written answer, including any claims or defenses must be filed with the District of Columbia Superior Court Civil Branch, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before the **16th day of October 2026**.

856 Frederick County

CIRCUIT COURT FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
100 West Patrick Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701
Clerk of the Court:301-600-1976
Assignment Office:
301-600-2015

Case Number: C-10-CV-23-000031
Other Reference Numbers:

WILLIAM M. SAVAGE, ET AL.

VS.

BAKA LENDO, ET AL.

Date: 07/13/2026

NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby issued by the Circuit Court for Frederick County this **13th day of July 2026,** that the sale made and recorded by William Savage for the sale of the property described in these proceedings

3631 Byron Place, Frederick, MD 21704

be ratified and confirmed thirty (30) days from the date of this Notice, unless cause to the contrary be shown, provided a copy of this Notice be inserted in some Newspaper published in this County, once in each of three (3) successive weeks. The report states the amount of the sale to be **$839,632.91**.

Sandra K. Dalton
Clerk of the Circuit Court

Jul 17,24,31, 2026 0012523013

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840 Trustees Sale - DC

Pardo & Drazin, LLC
Russell S. Drazin, Attorney
4400 Jenifer Street, NW, Suite 2
Washington, DC 20015
202-223-7900

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

218 7th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Lot 0068 in Square 0900

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust, Security Agreement and Assignment of Leases and Rents (the "Deed of Trust") dated February 18, 2022 and recorded on February 22, 2022 as Instrument No. 2022020241 from 218 7th St SE LLC ("Borrower"), a District of Columbia limited liability company, as grantor, to T. D. Service Company ("Original Trustee"), a California corporation, as trustee, securing a certain Term Note dated February 18, 2022 in the maximum principal amount of $2,560,000.00, default having occurred under the terms thereof, pursuant to a Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee dated February 12, 2026 and recorded on February 18, 2026 as Instrument No. 2026015273 removing Original Trustee as trustee under the Deed of Trust and appointing Hunter C. Piel ("Substitute Trustee") as successor trustee under the Deed of Trust, and following the mailing and recordation of an Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit, at the request of the current noteholder, Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction at the office of Harvey West Auctioneers, Inc., 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015, on

AUGUST 4, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

ALL THAT LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON (if any) situated in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, known as 218 7th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003 (Lot 0068 in Square 0900), and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS" condition, with no warranty of any kind, and subject to conditions, restrictions, agreements, liens, and encumbrances of record affecting the same – except those encumbrances of record that are extinguished by operation of District of Columbia law by virtue of the foreclosure of the Deed of Trust.

Purchaser will take title to the property subject to any and all real estate taxes and water and sewer charges. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $200,000.00 by cashier's check will be required of purchaser at the time and place of sale. Purchaser shall settle within thirty (30) days of sale. TIME SHALL BE OF THE ESSENCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTLEMENT BY PURCHASER. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds at settlement. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money from the date of sale to the date of settlement at the applicable interest rate set forth in the debt instrument secured by the Deed of Trust. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all settlement costs.

The noteholder and its affiliates, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit or to pay interest.

In the event that purchaser does not settle as required for any reason, purchaser shall be in default. Upon such default, the deposit shall be forfeited to Substitute Trustee and all of the expenses of this sale (including legal fees and costs, and full commission on the gross sale price) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Substitute Trustee may resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property. Defaulting purchaser shall be liable to Substitute Trustee for legal fees and costs incurred by Substitute Trustee in connection with such default.

If Substitute Trustee is unable to settle as set forth herein, purchaser's sole remedy at law and in equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit and the sale shall be considered null and void and of no effect whatsoever.

Substitute Trustee reserves the right, in Substitute Trustee's sole discretion, to reject any and all bids, to withdraw the property from sale at any time before or at the auction, to extend the time to receive bids, to waive or modify the deposit requirement, to waive or modify the requirement that interest be paid on the unpaid purchase money, and/or to extend the period of time for settlement.

Additional terms may be announced at the sale. The successful bidder will be required to execute and deliver to Substitute Trustee a memorandum or contract of the sale at the conclusion of bidding.

Hunter C. Piel, Substitute Trustee

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, INC.
5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Ste 440
Washington, DC 20015
202-463-4567
www.hwestauctions.com

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840 Trustees Sale - DC

SHAPIRO SHER GUINOT & SANDLER, P.A.
250 W. Pratt Street – Suite 2000
Baltimore, MD 21201

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S AUCTION SALE
APARTMENT BUILDING
Located at
4730 SOUTHERN AVENUE SE
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20019

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust, Assignment of Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing, dated April 19, 2021, from 4730 Southern Avenue SE LLC, and recorded with the District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds ("Land Records") on May 3, 2021 as Document No. 2021059726 (the "Deed of Trust"), the holder of the indebtedness secured by the Deed of Trust ("the Secured Party") having subsequently appointed Scott W. Foley (the "Substitute Trustee"), to act as Substitute Trustee by Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustee dated June 15, 2026 and recorded among the Land Records at Document No. 2026059696, a default having occurred in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby and/or the covenants contained therein, and at the request of the Secured Party, and following mailing of the *Affidavit of Non-Residential Mortgage Foreclosure* which was recorded on June 18, 2026 in the Land Records as Document No. 2026059697 and the *Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit* which was filed on July 6, 2026 with the Land Records, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale, at public auction, within the office of ALEX COOPER AUCTIONEERS, INC., 4910 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 100, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20016 on

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026 AT 11:45 A.M.

ALL THAT FEE-SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND AND THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON being commonly known as 4730 Southern Avenue SE, Washington, D.C., 20019 (Square 5363, Lot 0135) and more fully described in the Deed of Trust (the "Property").

UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, the Property is a 3-story plus basement building originally constructed in 1960 in a RA-1 zoning district situated on 0.26+/- acres. The Property is believed to have sixteen (16) parking spaces.

NOTE: The information contained herein has been obtained from sources deemed reliable and is believed to be substantially accurate, but has not been independently verified by the Auctioneer, the Substitute Trustee or the Secured Party, and is offered for informational purposes only. The Auctioneer, the Substitute Trustee and Secured Party do not make any representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy of the information contained herein or in any of the information and materials made available to prospective purchasers and no express or implied warranties or representations may be inferred including, but not limited to, as to the use of the Property. Square footage contained herein is more or less. Prospective purchasers are encouraged to perform their own due diligence, in advance of the auction, regarding the permitted uses of the Properties.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $100,000 in the form of a cashier's check or other form acceptable to the Substitute Trustee at the time and place of sale will be required from the purchaser. The deposit must be increased to ten percent (10%) of the purchase price within two (2) business days following the sale and delivered to the office of the Substitute Trustee in the same form as the initial deposit. The deposit shall be placed in the trust account of the Substitute Trustee and shall not accrue interest. The Substitute Trustee will, as a condition to the sale, require all potential bidders to show their deposit before any bidding begins. If the Secured Party bids, it shall be entitled to debt bid and the Auctioneer shall be entitled to bid on behalf of the Secured Party. No deposit shall be required of the Secured Party. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest thereon at 7.625% per annum from the date of sale through the date of settlement, shall be due in cash or certified funds within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale unless extended in writing at the sole and absolute discretion of the Substitute Trustee. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. In the event settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest caused by the delay. If the deposit is not increased as and when required or payment of the balance does not take place within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale of the Property (or such extended date as may be approved in writing by the Substitute Trustee as provided above), in addition to any other legal or equitable remedies available, the Substitute Trustee may declare the deposit forfeited, retain the deposit, resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser, and avail himself and the Secured Party of any legal and equitable rights against the defaulting purchaser. The defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of such Property.

All taxes, ground rent, water rent, homeowner association charges, condominium fees, and all other public and private charges and assessments, including, without limitation, paving, sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges that are owed against the Property shall be borne by the purchaser and paid for by the purchaser at settlement. In addition, the cost of all documentary stamps, transfer taxes, document preparation, title insurance, title examination costs, survey costs, and all other settlement expenses incidental to conveyance of the Property shall be borne by the purchaser and paid for by the purchaser at settlement. In the event the Property is subject to a ground rent, the purchaser agrees to the leasehold purchase subject to the ground rent with no adjustment in the purchase price.

The Property is also sold subject to all encumbrances that are not extinguished by operation of law by the sale and subject to all easements, equitable servitudes, conditions, rights of way, restrictions, rights of redemption, covenants, declarations, and restrictions of record affecting the Property not otherwise extinguished by the sale. Furthermore, the Property is being sold subject to all nuisances, housing code violations, building code violations, zoning code violations, critical area and wetland violations, and environmental problems, conditions and hazards, whether latent or observable, which may exist on the Property. In addition, the Property is being sold subject to such state of facts that an accurate survey or physical inspection of the Property might disclose.

The Property will be sold "WHERE IS" in an "AS IS" condition and without any recourse, representations, or warranties, either express or implied, as to its nature, condition, value, use or description. The purchaser of the Property shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property following conveyance thereof by the Substitute Trustee to the purchaser. The purchaser(s) shall assume the risk of loss for the Property immediately after the sale. Notwithstanding, the Property sustained damage from fire and water, and insurance proceeds, claims or rights to insurance proceeds arising from or related to casualty or damage to the Property, including without limitation fire and water damage, are the sole and exclusive property of the Secured Party, as the beneficiary under the Deed of Trust, and are expressly excluded from the sale. The purchaser(s) shall have no right, title, interest, or claim in or to such insurance proceeds, and the bid of the purchaser(s) shall reflect the current condition of the Property without regard to such insurance proceeds.

If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey title to the Property, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be limited to the refund of its deposit for such Property, without interest thereon. Upon refund of the deposit, the sale of the Property shall be null and void and of no effect, and such purchaser shall have no further claims against the Substitute Trustee, the Secured Party or the Auctioneer. The conveyance of the Property by the Substitute Trustee to the purchaser(s) at settlement shall be by Trustee's Deed without covenant, warranty or representations whatsoever express or implied.

Until an offer is finally accepted by the Substitute Trustee, it is subject to higher and better offers. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right in his sole discretion to reject any bids or withdraw the Property from sale at any time before the auctioneer announces that the Property is "sold" and the deposit in the required amount and form is accepted thereon by the Substitute Trustee. The Substitute Trustee may adjourn and/or continue the sale on the Property at any time. The parties' respective rights and obligations regarding the terms of the sale and conduct of the sale shall be governed and interpreted under the laws of the District of Columbia. The Substitute Trustee reserves the right to modify or waive the requirements for bidders' deposits and terms of sale/settlement. Further particulars may be announced at the time of sale.

Scott W. Foley, Substitute Trustee

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Paul Cooper, Auctioneer
License No. 2906000287
Alex Cooper Auctioneers, Inc.
908 York Road, Towson, Maryland 21204
Telephone No.: (410) 977-4707
http://realestate.alexcooper.com

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Jul 24,27,29,31,Aug 4, 2026 0012522521

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873 Prince William County

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF 18776 Pier Trail Dr, Triangle, VA 22172

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $726,596.00 dated July 18, 2023 recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for Prince William County on July 19, 2023 as Instrument Number: 202307190036870, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction, at the Main entrance of the courthouse for the Circuit Court of Prince William County, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110 on **August 24, 2026 at 12:00 PM** the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and briefly described as: Lot 3A, inclusive, STONEWALL MANOR SUBDIVISION, Section 6, as the same appears duly dedicated, platted and recorded in Inst. No. 200712260136792 and plat attached thereto recorded as instrument No. 200712260136793, among the land records of Prince William County, Virginia. Tax ID: 251397 (8288-23-5300).

TERMS OF SALE: A bidder's deposit of $16,000.00 or 10% of the sale price, whichever is lower, will be required in the form of a certified or cashier's check. Cash will not be accepted as a deposit. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustee may forfeit deposit. FINCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption. Additional terms to be announced at sale. This is a communication from a debt collector. This notice is an attempt to collect on a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

(Trustee # 26-005727)

Substitute Trustee: ALG Trustee, LLC C/O Orlans Law Group PLLC PO Box 2548, Leesburg, VA 20177 (703) 777-7101 website: www.Orlans.com

Jul 17,24,31, 2026 0012520977

MARYLAND Roommates

BOWIE: 2BR 1BA $1,200. Cul-de-sac. Street parking. Tenant pays utils. Sec Dep req. **319-533-4485**

HYATTSVILLE - 2 Rooms avail SFH for rent. $650-$700+ sec dep & shr utils. N/S. F pref. **240-481-4212**

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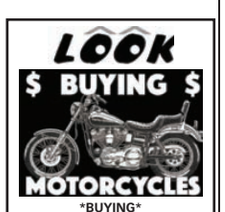

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PUPS & ADULTS 8 wks - 5 yrs.
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850 Montgomery County

ORLANS PC
1602 VILLAGE MARKET BLVD. SE, SUITE 310
LEESBURG, VA 20175
703-777-7101

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY
13348 Moonlight Trail Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Under a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from TIM KHUONG SON, A MARRIED MAN, dated November 24, 2014 and recorded in Liber 49522, folio 089 among the Land Records of MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No.C-15-CV-25-003654; Tax ID No.13-03666014) the Sub. Trustees will sell at public auction at the MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, located at 50 MARYLAND AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, on

AUGUST 4, 2026 at 1:30 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO AN IRS RIGHT OF REDEMPTION.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit $50,000.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for MONTGOMERY COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate pursuant to the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff of the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee(s) are unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 25-004458)

JAMES E. CLARKE,
JOANNA FORONDA,
MARY L. HURLEY,
PAUL J. MORAN,
JASON N. GREENBERG,
JOHN ANSELL III,
SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 17,24,31, 2026 0012521227

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The Washington Post

S0115-2x6

840 Trustees Sale - DC

Law Offices of
Gebhardt & Smith LLP
One South Street, Suite 2200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE
OF VALUABLE COMMERCIAL CONDOMINIUM UNITS
AND PARKING SPACES**

**KNOWN AS
1624 U STREET, NW, UNITS 100 AND 103
AND PARKING UNITS P1, P2, P3 AND P4
WASHINGTON, DC 20009**

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust dated January 12, 2007 from Alfredo Mauricio Fraga and Nesrin-Ali Abaza (collectively, the "Grantors") to the trustees named therein for the benefit of EagleBank, successor-in-interest to Fidelity & Trust Bank ("Original Lender") and recorded among the records of the DC Recorder of Deeds ("Recorder of Deeds") at Document #2007009726, as modified by a Modification of Deed of Trust, dated August 3, 2016, executed by the Grantors and recorded among the records at the Recorder of Deeds at Document #2016081944 (collectively, the "Deed of Trust"), as assigned by the Original Lender to MMG Investments VII, LLC ("MMG Investments") pursuant to an Assignment of Deed of Trust and Assignment of Rents, dated November 10, 2025, executed by the Original Lender and recorded among the records of the Recorder of Deeds at Document #2025113117, as further assigned by MMG Investments to MMG REO VII, LLC ("Noteholder") pursuant to an Assignment of Deed of Trust, dated March 24, 2026, executed by MMG Investments and recorded among the records of the Recorder of Deeds at Document #2026028536. The Noteholder having subsequently appointed Richard A. DuBose, III and Michael C. Bolesta as Substitute Trustees ("Trustees") in the place of the trustees under the Deed of Trust by an Amended Deed of Appointment of Substitute Trustees recorded on May 19, 2026 and recorded among the records of the Recorder of Deeds at Document #2026049062, default having occurred under the terms of the Deed of Trust and at the request of the Noteholder, and pursuant to a Notice of Foreclosure Sale of Real Property or Condominium Unit recorded on July 1, 2026 among the records of the Recorder of Deeds at Document #2026065217 in accordance with DC Code § 42-815 and the applicable laws of the District of Columbia, the Trustees will offer for sale to the highest qualified bidder at a public auction to be held at Alex Cooper Auctioneers, Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20016, on:

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2026
at 12:10 P.M.**

ALL THAT piece, tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the District of Columbia, together with any buildings, structures, improvements and appurtenances thereon, more particularly described as follows (the "Property"):

Part of Lot 78 in Square 176 in a subdivision made by Old Firehouse No. 9, Inc., as per plat recorded in Liber 175 at folio 128 among the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.

The part of the land being more particularly designated as UNITS No. 100 and 103 and PARKING SPACES P1 through P-4, inclusive, of the OLD FIREHOUSE NO 9, according to the Declaration of Condominium recorded May 25, 1984 as Instrument No. 18321, and as amended, and By-Laws relating thereto recorded May 25, 1984 as Instrument No. 18322, and as amended, among the Land Recorded of the District of Columbia, and as per Plat of Condominium subdivision recorded in Condominium Book No. 33 at page 28 of the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.

NOTE: At the date hereof the above described land is designated on the Records of the Assessor of the District of Columbia for taxation and assessment purposes as Lots 2050, 2053, 2063, 2064,2065 and 2066 in Square 176.

TOGETHER WITH all of the appurtenances incident to said Unit(s), as contained in the Declaration of Condominium.

SUBJECT, HOWEVER, to all the provisions, restrictions, easements and conditions as contained in said Declaration of Condominium and the By-Laws relating thereto.

The Condominium Declaration allocates to the Condominium Unit an undivided interest (stated as a percentage) in the common elements of the Condominium (hereinafter called the "Percentage Interest"). The Percentage Interest of the Condominium Unit is set forth in the Condominium Declaration.

Tax ID No. Lots 2050, 2053, 2063, 2064, 2065 and 2066 in Square 176.
The improvements more commonly known as 1624 U Street, Units 100 and 103 and Parking Units P1, P2, P3, and P4.

The Property is believed to currently consist of two commercial condominium units that are joined to house an owner-occupied restaurant located at 1624 U Street NW, Units 100 and 103, Washington, D.C. 20009. The Property is also believed to consist of parking units P1, P2, P3 and P4. The Property is believed to be zoned MU-4-Mixed Use District. Tax ID No. Lots 2050, 2053, 2063, 2064, 2065 and 2066 in Square 176.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit in the amount of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00), payable by certified or cashier's check made payable to "Gebhardt & Smith LLP," will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. Within five (5) business days after the date of the sale, the purchaser of the Property shall deliver a certified or cashier's check to the Trustees to increase the purchaser's deposit to an amount that is equal to ten percent (10%) of the full amount bid by such purchaser at the sale. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest thereon at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement, shall be due from the purchaser by wire transfer or certified check within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of sale, unless such closing deadline is extended in writing by the Trustees. Time is of the essence. If settlement is delayed for any reason, there shall be no abatement of interest on the unpaid purchase price. Settlement shall be held at such place as may be agreed to by the Trustees. In the event the Noteholder, or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof, is the successful bidder at the sale, such party will not be required to make a deposit or to pay interest on the unpaid purchase money. The Trustees reserve the right to withdraw the Property from sale, to reject any and all bids at the sale, and to extend the time for settlement, at their discretion.

The Property is being sold in an "AS IS" condition and without any warranties or representations of any kind, either express or implied, as to the value, nature, condition, use or description of the Property or the improvements thereon. The Property is also being sold subject to: (a) existing zoning, building, housing, fire and safety code violations; (b) critical area and wetland violations; (c) environmental problems, conditions, encroachments and other violations which may exist on or with respect to the Property; (d) senior liens, encumbrances, easements, conditions, restrictions, agreements, declarations, rights of redemption and covenants which are not extinguished as a matter of law by the foreclosure sale; and (e) such state of facts that an accurate survey or physical inspection of the Property might disclose. The purchaser is responsible for conducting its own due diligence regarding the Property.

All senior liens, real estate taxes, water charges and municipal charges and assessments owed against the Property which are not extinguished as a matter of law by the foreclosure sale shall be the sole responsibility of the purchaser and shall be paid for by the purchaser at settlement. The cost of all documentary stamps, recordation taxes, transfer taxes, document preparation costs, title examination costs and other costs associated with conveying the Property to the purchaser shall also be the sole responsibility of the purchaser and shall be paid for by the purchaser at settlement.

The purchaser at the foreclosure sale shall assume the risk of loss for the Property immediately after the sale takes place. It shall be the purchaser's responsibility to obtain possession of the Property after the closing. The purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any rent relating to the Property until the Purchaser pays the entire purchase price and closes on its purchase of the Property.

In the event the purchaser fails to go to settlement and pay the entire purchase price as required herein or fails to deliver the entire deposit as referenced herein, in addition to any other legal or equitable remedies available to the Trustees and the Noteholder, the Trustees may declare the aforementioned deposit forfeited by the purchaser and resell the Property at the purchaser's sole risk and expense. In such event, the defaulting purchaser shall be liable for the payment of any deficiency in the purchase price sustained by the Trustees and/or the Noteholder, all costs and expenses of both sales, attorneys' fees, and any other damages sustained by the Trustees and/or the Noteholder, including, without limitation, all incidental damages. In the event a resale of the Property results in a sale in excess of the amount originally bid by the defaulting purchaser, the defaulting purchaser waives any and all claims, rights and interest to any such excess amount and shall not be entitled to any distribution whatsoever from the resale proceeds or a return of any portion of the purchaser's forfeited deposit.

If the Trustees are unable to convey the Property as described above, the purchaser's sole remedy at law or in equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit, without interest thereon. Upon refund of the deposit to the purchaser as aforesaid, the sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Trustees, the Noteholder or the Auctioneer conducting the sale of the Property.

The parties' respective rights and obligations regarding the terms and conduct of the sale shall be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia.

Richard A. DuBose and Michael C. Bolesta, Substitute Trustees

For further information, please contact:
Richard A. DuBose, Substitute Trustee
Michael C. Bolesta, Substitute Trustee
Gebhardt & Smith LLP
One South Street, Suite 2200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Tel: (410) 385-5039
or
Alex Cooper Auctioneers, Inc.
Paul R. Cooper
410-977-4707

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Jul 24,27,29,31,Aug 4, 2026 0012523100

The Washington Post | Store

840 Trustees Sale - DC

HEISE JORGENSEN & STEFANELLI P.A.
18310 Montgomery Village Avenue, Suite 400
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
(301) 977-8400

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE
Known as
**3031 CHESTER GROVE ROAD,
UPPER MARLBORO, MARYLAND 20774**

By virtue of the power and authority contained in a certain Deed of Trust from Aaron Bryant and Taren Proctor (n/k/a Taren Proctor-Bryant), to Jerry Rader, Trustee, dated September 26, 2007 and recorded in Liber 28776 at Page 151 among the Land Records for Prince George's County, Maryland, the undersigned substituted trustees (by virtue of Deed of Appointment between The Community Development Administration of the Department of Housing and Community Development for the State of Maryland, as successor in interest to Corridor Mortgage Group, Inc. (the "Beneficiary") and said trustees recorded among the Land Records of Prince George's County) will, on

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026 at 9:30 A.M.

offer for sale at public auction in front of the Main Street entrance to the Duval Wing of the Prince George's County Courthouse, 14735 Main Street, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772, all of the property and improvements thereon conveyed by said deed of trust, described as 3031 Chester Grove Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774, Tax Identification No. 06-0495911 (the "Property") and more fully described in the Deed of Trust.

TERMS OF SALE: The Property, which is improved by a dwelling, will be offered for sale, subject to matters known and unknown, in an "AS IS, WHERE IS" condition with no warranty of any kind and will be sold and conveyed by the Substitute Trustees subject to all encumbrances, rights, reservations, covenants, conditions, easements, restrictions, and statutory liens, if any, having priority over the Deed of Trust, as they may lawfully affect the Property. The risk of loss or damage to the Property shall be borne by the successful bidder from and after the date and time of the sale. Obtaining possession of the Property shall be the sole responsibility of the successful bidder. A deposit of Fifteen Thousand and no/100 Dollars ($15,000.00), in the form of certified check or cashier's check, (the "Deposit") will be required at the time of sale. The Beneficiary is not required to make a Deposit. The balance of the purchase price for the Property, together with interest at 7.625% per annum from the date of sale to the date of settlement, shall be paid in cash within fifteen (15) days after final ratification of the sale of the Property by the Circuit Court, TIME BEING OF THE ESSENCE WITH REGARD TO ALL OF PURCHASER'S OBLIGATIONS. Taxes, water, sewer, ground rent, condominium fees, and/or homeowners association dues, if applicable, will be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. All other public charges and assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges will be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. All costs of conveyance, including transfer taxes and recordation taxes will be paid by the purchaser. If any successful bidder fails for any reason to complete settlement as provided above, the Deposit shall be forfeited and applied to the costs of the sale, including Substitute Trustees' fees, and the balance, if any, shall be delivered to the Beneficiary to be applied by the Beneficiary against the indebtedness secured by, and other amounts due under, the Deed of Trust in accordance with the Deed of Trust or applicable law or otherwise as the Beneficiary shall elect. Forfeiture of the Deposit shall not limit any rights or remedies of the Substitute Trustees or the Beneficiary with respect to any such default. If the Property is resold after any such default, such re-sale shall be at the risk and the cost of the failing bidder, and the failing bidder shall be liable for any deficiency between its bid and the successful bid at the resale as well as the costs of conducting such re-sale. The purchaser agrees to accept service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event the Substitute Trustees do not execute a deed of conveyance or other necessary settlement documents, the purchaser's sole remedy shall be the refund of the Deposit. In the event the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title or in the event the borrower entered into a repayment plan, reinstated or paid the loan off prior to the sale, filed for bankruptcy, or if for any other reason, the undersigned did not have the right to sell, the sale is null and void and the purchaser is not entitled to any legal or equitable remedy other than return of the Deposit without interest and any and all other claims of the purchaser are hereby released. The Substitute Trustees reserve the right (i) to waive or modify the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve the creditworthiness of any bidder or final purchaser; (iii) to withdraw all or part of the Property from sale at any time prior to the termination of bidding; (iv) to keep the bidding open for any length of time; (v) to reject any or all bids; and (vi) to postpone the sale, all as the Substitute Trustees may determine in their discretion. Additional terms and conditions to be announced at the time of sale. All inquiries regarding the sale should be directed to Stephen B. Jackson, Substituted Trustee.

STEPHEN B. JACKSON and STEVEN P. HENNE
Substitute Trustees

Jul 24,31,Aug 7, 2026 0012523016

881 Orange County

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
11386 COX MILL RD
GORDONSVILLE, VA 22942**

In execution of the Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $120,280.00, dated May 13, 2019, and recorded as Instrument Number 190001998 in Orange County land records, the appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction **at the entrance to the Circuit Court of Orange County, 110 North Madison Road, Orange 22960-0133 on October 06, 2026 at 4:00 PM**, the property described in said deed of trust, located at the above address and more particularly described as follows:

ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, BELONGING, LYING, SITUATE AND BEING IN THE MADISON MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS LOT #2 ON A PLAT OF SURVEY OF ESTES ENTERPRISES, INC., PROPERTY BY MILTON TERRY ESTES, C.L.S., DATED NOVEMBER 29, 1997 OF RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, IN DEED BOOK 309, PAGE 17.

The property and improvements will be sold in "as is" physical condition without warranty of any kind.

TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price or 10% of the original principal amount of the subject Deed of Trust, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check required at time of sale except for the party secured by the Deed of Trust. Risk of loss on purchaser from date and time of auction. Balance of the purchase price must be paid by cashier's check within 15 days from sale date. Except for Virginia Grantor tax, all settlement costs and expenses are purchaser's responsibility. Taxes are pro-rated to the date of sale. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining possession of the property. If purchaser defaults, deposit may be forfeited and property resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser who shall be liable for any deficiency in the purchase price and all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of both sales. If Trustee does not convey title for any reason, purchaser's sole remedy is return of deposit without interest. This sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan secured by the Deed of Trust including but not limited to determining whether prior to sale a bankruptcy was filed, a forbearance, repayment or other agreement was entered into or the loan was reinstated or paid off; in any such event this sale shall be null and void and purchaser's sole remedy shall be return of deposit without interest. This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE: RAS Trustee Services, LLC, 101 North Lynnhaven Road, Suite 104, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
RAS Trustee Services, LLC, Substitute Trustee
c/o Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
11350 McCormick Road, Executive Plaza I, Suite 302
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031
(844) 442-2150
(470) 321- 7112

Jul 31, 2026 0012523919

851 Prince Georges County

De Cubas & Lewis, PA
PO Box 5026
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**
KNOWN AS
**13305 Santa Anita Road
Laurel, MD 20708**

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a Deed of Trust from BRENDAN M. MCCARRON, dated November 14, 2022 and recorded in book 48346 , page 68 among the Land Records of PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Maryland, default having occurred thereunder (Foreclosure Case docketed as Case No. C-16-CV-25-001706; Tax ID No. 10-1100981) the Substitute Trustee will sell at public auction PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY C ourthouse located at FRONT OF THE DUVAL WING OF THE COURTHOUSE COMPLEX 14735 MAIN ST, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20772.

AUGUST 4, 2026 at 1:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD and more fully described in above referenced Deed of Trust.

The property will be sold in an "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions and agreements of record affecting the same, if any and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $ 40,700.00 will be required at the time of sale, such deposit to be in CERTIFIED CHECK OR BY CASHIER'S CHECK, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY. Time is of the essence as to the purchaser. If the purchaser defaults, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the purchaser's risk and expense. The purchaser waives personal service and accepts service by first class mail and certified mail addressed to the address provided by said Purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale for any Motion or Show Cause Order incident to this sale including a Motion to Default Purchaser and for Resale of the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive any benefit from the resale, including, but not limited to, additional proceeds or surplus which may arise therefrom. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at 6.00000 % from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Substitute Trustee. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered at the time of sale or any time prior to settlement or if the settlement is delayed for any reason. In the event that the Secured Party executes a forbearance agreement with the borrower(s) described in the above-mentioned Deed of Trust, or allows the borrower(s) to execute their right to reinstate or payoff the subject loan, prior to the sale, with or without the Substitute Trustee's prior knowledge, this Contract shall be null and void and of no effect, and the Purchaser's sole remedy shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Purchaser shall pay for documentary stamps, transfer taxes and settlement expenses. Taxes, ground rent, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustee is unable to convey insurable title for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to a refund of the aforementioned deposit without interest. In the event the sale is not ratified for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of the deposit without interest. (File # 25-00004)

THOMAS GARTNER, JUSTIN HOY, Substitute Trustee (s)

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 17,24,31, 2026 0012522120

852 Anne Arundel County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY**
KNOWN AS
**94 Pine Rd
Pasadena, MD 21122**

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to LAWYERS TITLE INSURANCE CORP. , Trustee(s), dated December 20, 2007, and recorded among the Land Records of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 19819 , folio 242 , the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 8 CHURCH CIR, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401 ON,

AUGUST 4, 2026 at 10:00 AM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MD and more fully described in the above-referenced Deed of Trust Tax ID# - 03-000-00539000 & 03-000-00540400.

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $31,500.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 4.75% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser.

Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public/private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent, and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes hall be paid by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale.

Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. If the sale is rescinded or not ratified for any reason, including post sale lender audit, or a resale is to take place for any reason, the purchaser(s) sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the aforementioned deposit. The Substitute Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if the ratification of the sale is denied by the Circuit Court for any reason, the purchasers sole remedy, at law or equity, is the return of their deposit, without interest.

The purchaser waives all rights and claims against the Substitute Trustees whether known or unknown. These provisions shall survive settlement Upon refund of the deposit, this sale shall be void and of no effect, and the purchaser shall have no further claim against the Substitute Trustees. The sale is subject to post-sale review of the status of the loan and that if any agreement to cancel the sale was entered into by the lender and borrower prior to the sale then the sale is void and the purchaser's deposit shall be refunded without interest. Additional terms and conditions, if applicable, may be announced at the time and date of sale.

If this transaction is subject to the FinCEN Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule ("RRE") issued pursuant to the Bank Secrecy Act, information necessary to comply with the RRE Rule must be obtained provided to the Reporting Person, as defined in RRE Rule, prior to closing. File No. (17-08147)

BRENNAN FERGUSON, JOHN C. HANRAHAN,
JEREMY B. WILKINS, AMANDA DRISCOLE,
ROBERT OLIVERI, PAUL HEINMULLER ,
Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 17,24,31, 2026 0012520971

857 Howard County

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
11517 Green Street, Fulton, MD 20759**

Trustee's Sale of valuable fee simple property improved by premises known as 11517 Green Street, Fulton, MD 20759 . By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust, dated July 27, 2018, and recorded in Liber 18300 at Page 389 among the land records of the County of Howard, in the original principal amount of $380,750.00. Upon default and request for sale, the undersigned trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Courthouse for the County of Howard, located at 9250 Judicial Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043, on **August 6, 2026 at 10:00 AM** , all that property described in said Deed of Trust including but not limited to:

Tax ID# 05-597240

Said property is in fee simple and is improved by a dwelling and is sold in "as is condition" and subject to all superior covenants, conditions, liens, restrictions, easement, rights-of-way, as may affect same, if any.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of 10% of the sale price, cash or certified funds shall be required at the time of sale. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 8.5% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale.

Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser.

If applicable, condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is the return of the deposit. Trustee's File No. 25-299569.

The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within fifteen days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale.

William M. Savage, et al., Substitute Trustees.

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP,
Mailing Address: 8520 Cliff Cameron Dr., Suite 330,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28269
(410) 769-9797

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 17,24,31, 2026 0012521812

852 Anne Arundel County

**LAW OFFICES
Shulman Rogers, P.A.**
12505 Park Potomac Avenue, 6th Floor
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 230-5241
File No. 131638.00102

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
OF IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY**

**836 Mill Creek Road, Arnold, MD 21012
(the "Property")**

Under a power of sale contained in a certain Commercial Deed of Trust, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing (the "Deed of Trust") from 836 Mill Creek LLC to Yvonne Y. Deardorff, Esq., Trustee, dated November 1, 2024 and recorded in Book 40914, at Page 70, among the Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, default having occurred under the terms thereof, the Substitute Trustees ("Trustees") will sell at public auction at the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel, located at 8 Church Circle, Annapolis, MD 21401, on

August 18, 2026 at 4:15 PM

All that Fee-Simple lot of ground and the improvements thereon, if any, identified as Tax ID No. 03-525-13002450 and more fully described in the aforesaid Deed of Trust.

The Property and improvements, if any, thereupon will be sold in "as is" condition and subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind.

Terms of Sale: A deposit of $175,000.00 by cashier's or certified check, or in such other form as the Substitute Trustees may determine, at their sole discretion at the time of sale. Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash within ten days of final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court for Anne Arundel. Interest to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 10.99% from the date of sale to the date funds are received in the office of the Trustees. There will be no abatement of interest in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement or if settlement is delayed for any reason. The noteholder shall not be obligated to pay interest if it is the purchaser. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public and/or private charges or assessments, including water/sewer charges and ground rent, to be adjusted to date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale forward. Cost of all documentary stamps, transfer, and recordation taxes and settlement expenses shall be borne by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the Property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss or damage to the Property from the date of sale forward. Additional terms may be announced at the time of the sale.

If the Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the purchaser's sole remedy in law and equity shall be limited to a refund of the deposit without interest. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Trustees for application against all expenses, attorneys' fees and the full commission of the sale price of the above-scheduled foreclosure sale. In the event of default, all expenses of this sale (including attorneys' fees and the full commission of this sale) shall be charged against and paid out of the forfeited deposit. Any remaining deposit shall be applied to the loan secured by the Deed of Trust. The Trustees may then re-advertise and resell the Property at the risk and expense of the defaulting purchaser or may avail themselves of any legal or equitable remedies against the defaulting purchaser without re-selling the Property. In the event of a resale, the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to receive the surplus, if any, even if such surplus results from improvements to the Property by said defaulting purchaser, and the defaulting purchaser shall be liable to the Trustees and secured party for reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses incurred in connection with all litigation involving the Property or the proceeds of the resale.

Benjamin P. Smith
Rebekah F. Paradis
Seth W. Diamond
Erin M. August
Substitute Trustees

A181, A316, A311, A183, A425, A426, A461, A463, A508

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 31,Aug 7,14, 2026 0012523167

857 Howard County

**TRUSTEE'S SALE
5509 Barrington Court, Columbia, MD 21045**

Trustee's Sale of valuable fee simple property improved by premises known as 5509 Barrington Court, Columbia, MD 21045. By virtue of the power and authority contained in a Deed of Trust, dated March 2, 2007, and recorded in Liber 10582 at Page 233 among the land records of the County of Howard, in the original principal amount of $472,000.00. Upon default and request for sale, the undersigned trustees will offer for sale at public auction at the Courthouse for the County of Howard, located at 9250 Judicial Way, Ellicott City, MD 21043, on **August 20, 2026 at 10:00 AM**, all that property described in said Deed of Trust including but not limited to:

Tax ID# 06-489680

Said property is in fee simple and is improved by a dwelling and is sold in "as is condition" and subject to all superior covenants, conditions, liens, restrictions, easement, rights-of-way, as may affect same, if any.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of 10% of the sale price, cash or certified funds shall be required at the time of sale. The balance of the purchase price with interest at 6.00% per annum from the date of sale to the date of payment will be paid within TEN DAYS after the final ratification of the sale.

Adjustments on all taxes, public charges and special or regular assessments will be made as of the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser.

If applicable, condominium and/or homeowners association dues and assessments that may become due after the time of sale will be the responsibility of the purchaser. Title examination, conveyancing, state revenue stamps, transfer taxes, title insurance, and all other costs incident to settlement are to be paid by the purchaser. Time is of the essence for the purchaser, otherwise the deposit will be forfeited and the property may be resold at risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser. If the sale is not ratified or if the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey marketable title in accord with these terms of sale, the purchaser's only remedy is the return of the deposit. Trustee's File No. 25-298104.

If this transaction is subject to the FinCEN Residential Real Estate Reporting Rule ("RRE") issued pursuant to the Bank Secrecy Act, information necessary to comply with the RRE Rule must be obtained and provided to the Reporting Person, as defined in RRE Rule, prior to closing.

The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within fifteen days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale.

William M. Savage, et al., Substitute Trustees.

LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP,
Mailing Address: 8520 Cliff Cameron Dr., Suite 330,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28269
(410) 769-9797

HARVEY WEST AUCTIONEERS, LLC
300 E. Joppa Road
Hampton Plaza - Suite 1103
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-769-9797

Jul 31,Aug 7,14, 2026 0012522533

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853 Calvert County

Brock and Scott, PLLC
5431 Oleander Drive
Wilmington NC, 28403

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES' SALE OF
VALUABLE FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY**
KNOWN AS
**319 GERONIMO RD
Lusby, MD 20657**

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust to JOHN BURSON, Trustee(s), dated July 9, 2013, and recorded among the Land Records of CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND in Liber 4253 , folio 499, RERECORDED IN BOOK 3066, PAGE 369, the holder of the indebtedness secured by this Deed of Trust having appointed the undersigned Substitute Trustees, by instrument duly recorded among the aforesaid Land Records, default having occurred under the terms thereof, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at THE CALVERT COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 175 MAIN ST, PRINCE FREDERICK, MD 20678 ON,

AUGUST 10, 2026 at 2:15 PM

ALL THAT FEE SIMPLE LOT OF GROUND and improvements thereon situated in CALVERT COUNTY, MD and more fully described in the above-referenced Deed of Trust Tax ID# - 01-106813.

Property is subject to a IRS Right of Redemption

The property will be sold in an "AS IS WHERE IS" condition without either express or implied warranty or representation, including but not limited to the description, fitness for a particular purpose or use, structural integrity, physical condition, construction, extent of construction, workmanship, materials, liability, zoning, subdivision, environmental condition, merchantability, compliance with building or housing codes or other laws, ordinances or regulations, or other similar matters, and subject to easements, agreements and restrictions of record which affect the same, if any. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, liens, restrictions and agreements of record affecting same including any condominium and of HOA assessments pursuant to Md Real Property Article 11-110.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $24,500.00 payable in certified check or by a cashier's check will be required from purchaser at time of sale, balance in immediately available funds upon final ratification of sale by the Circuit Court of CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND interest to be paid at the rate of 5.625% on unpaid purchase money from date of sale to date of settlement. The secured party herein, if a bidder, shall not be required to post a deposit. Third party purchaser (excluding the secured party) will be required to complete full settlement of the purchase of the property within TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS of the ratification of the sale by the Circuit Court otherwise the purchaser's deposit shall be forfeited and the property will be resold at the risk and expense, of the defaulting purchaser. The purchaser waives personal service of any papers filed in connection with its failure to settle within ten days of ratification and expressly agrees to accept service by first class mail at the address provided by the purchaser as identified on the Memorandum of Sale. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser.

Adjustment of all real property taxes, including agricultural taxes, if applicable, and any and all public/private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer, ground rent, and front foot benefit charges, to be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter assumed by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes hall be paid by purchaser. Condominium fees and/or homeowners association dues, if any, shall be assumed by the purchaser from the date of sale.

Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property and assumes risk of loss or damage to the property from the date of sale. If the sale is resc

THE WEATHER

WASHINGTONPOST.COM/WEATHER

Mostly sunny, high around 90

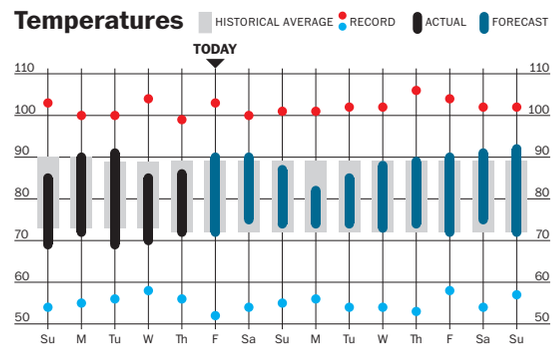
We'll have mostly sunny skies, high temperatures around 90 degrees and some winds today. In the evening, it will be partly cloudy and low temperatures will be in the 70s.

AccuWeather FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy	T-storm possible	T-storms	T-storms	T-storms
90° 72°	**90°** 75°	**87°** 74°	**82°** 74°	**85°** 74°	**88°** 73°
REALFEEL®: **94°**	REALFEEL® **95°**	REALFEEL® **92°**	REALFEEL® **90°**	REALFEEL® **89°**	REALFEEL® **98°**
CHANCE PRECIP: **0%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **5%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **55%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **95%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **90%**	CHANCE PRECIP: **55%**
WIND: **NNW 6–12 mph**	WIND: **SSE 7–14 mph**	WIND: **S 8–16 mph**	WIND: **SSW 6–12 mph**	WIND: **ESE 4–8 mph**	WIND: **S 6–12 mph**
HUMIDITY: **Moderate**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **High**	HUMIDITY: **Very High**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Temperatures

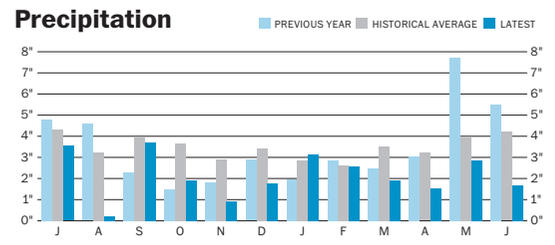


Statistics through 5 p.m. Thursday

	National	Dulles	BWI
High	**86°** 1:35 p.m.	**85°** 4:00 p.m.	**83°** 1:40 p.m.
Low	**72°** 5:00 a.m.	**68°** 6:15 a.m.	**69°** 4:00 a.m.
Historical Average	89°/72°	88°/67°	88°/68°
Record high	99° 1953	98° 1988	98° 2019
Record low	56° 1914	48° 2014	55° 2014

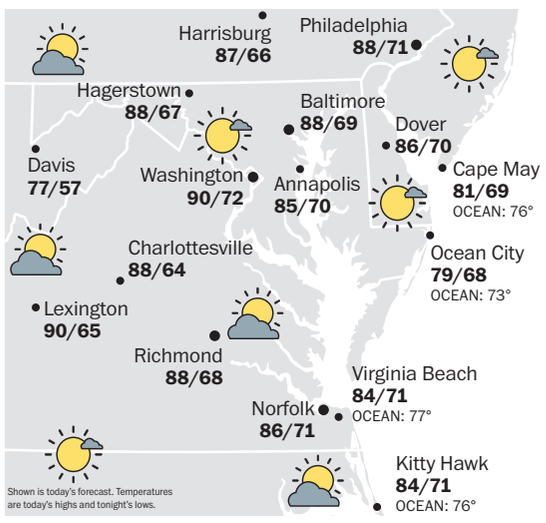
Difference from 30–yr. avg. (National): this month: **+0.8°** yr. to date: **+0.3°**

Precipitation



	National	Dulles	BWI
Past 24 hours	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"
Total this month	3.58"	5.34"	5.71"
Historical Average (month)	4.20"	4.02"	4.32"
Total this year	17.29"	24.55"	20.77"
Historical Average (year)	24.53"	25.56"	25.53"

REGION TODAY



Pollen: High
Observed ratings on 7/30

Grass	Low
Trees	Low
Weeds	Moderate
Mold	High

Today's Air Quality & UV forecast

Air Quality: Good
Main pollutant: Ozone

UV: Very High
10 out of 11+

Blue Ridge: *Shenandoah National Park:* Today, mostly sunny. High 85. Winds northeast 4–8 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 62. Winds light and variable. • *Great Smoky Mtns. National Park:* Today, not as warm, clouds, occasional sunshine. High 71. Winds west–southwest 6–12 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 62.

Atlantic beaches: *Ocean City, MD:* Today, partly sunny. High 79. Winds southeast 6–12 mph. Tonight, clear to partly cloudy. Low 68. Winds south 6–12 mph. • *Virginia Beach:* Today, mostly sunny. High 84. Winds northeast 6–12 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 71. Winds south–southeast 6–12 mph.

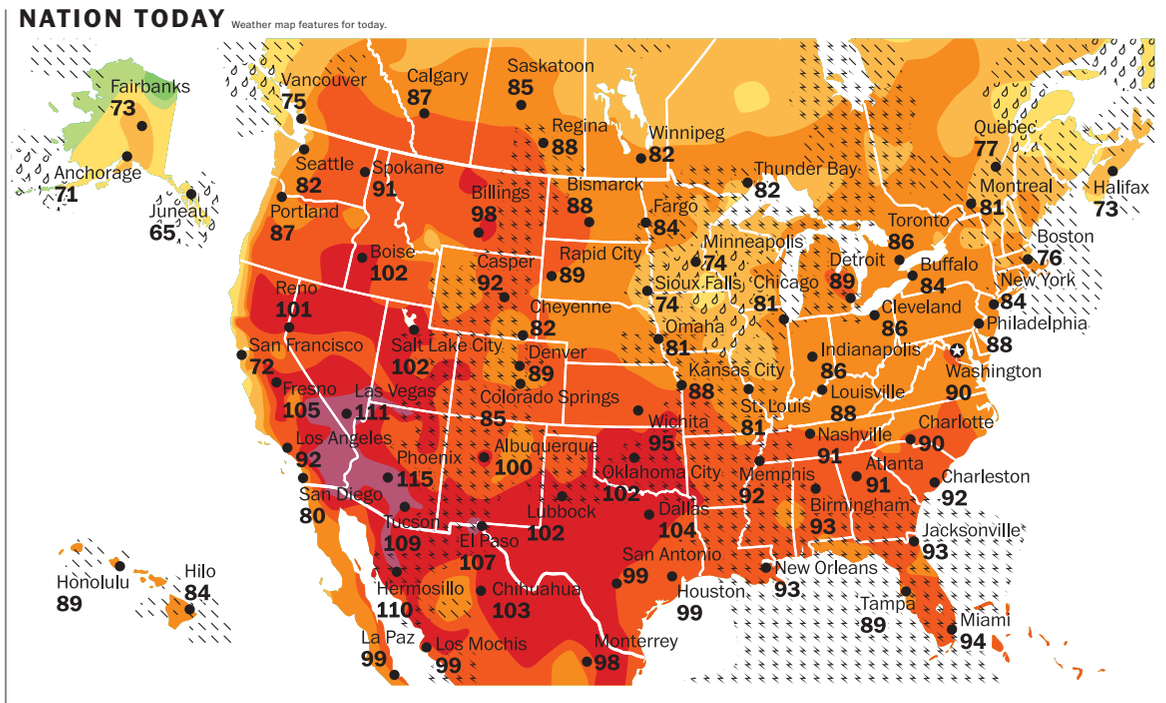
Waterways: *Upper Potomac River*: Today, mostly sunny. Wind north–northwest 4–8 knots. Waves less than a foot. Visibility generally clear. • *Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay*: Today, partly sunny. Wind northwest 4–8 knots. Waves 0–1 foot on the Lower Potomac; 1–2 feet on the Chesapeake Bay.• *River Stages*: The stage at Little Falls will be around 2.90 feet today, falling to 2.70 Saturday. Flood stage at Little Falls is 10 feet.

Today's tides (Shown are High tides in **Bold** and low tides.)

Washington	4:28 a.m.	**9:52 a.m.**	4:56 p.m.	**10:17 p.m.**
Annapolis	12:34 a.m.	**7:09 a.m.**	1:44 p.m.	**7:29 p.m.**
Ocean City	3:26 a.m.	**9:24 a.m.**	3:23 p.m.	**9:46 p.m.**
Norfolk	5:18 a.m.	**11:28 a.m.**	5:27 p.m.	**11:39 p.m.**
Point Lookout	**3:07 a.m.**	10:02 a.m.	**3:35 p.m.**	9:30 p.m.

NATION TODAY

Weather map features for today.



Showers, T-storms, Rain, Flurries, Snow, Ice

<–10	–0s	0s	10s	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s	80s	90s	100s	110+

Yesterday's National
High: Bullhead City, AZ **113°**
Low: Truckee, CA **36°**
For the 48 contiguous states

Yesterday's World
High: Omidieh, Iran **121°**
Low: Balmaceda, Chile **10°**
Excludes Antarctica

NATIONAL	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	81/63/pc	86/68/pc
Albuquerque	100/71/t	93/69/t
Anchorage	71/54/s	67/54/s
Atlanta	91/72/pc	84/73/t
Austin	101/76/pc	100/74/t
Baltimore	88/69/s	91/73/pc
Billings, MT	98/68/pc	105/69/s
Birmingham	93/75/t	86/74/t
Bismarck, ND	88/61/pc	96/66/s
Boise	102/70/s	102/60/s
Boston	76/67/pc	80/69/pc
Buffalo	84/68/pc	84/68/t
Burlington, VT	82/65/c	85/70/t
Charleston, SC	92/76/pc	91/76/t
Charleston, WV	86/64/s	81/70/pc
Charlotte	90/72/s	91/72/pc
Cheyenne, WY	82/56/t	88/57/pc
Chicago	81/68/r	72/65/r
Cincinnati	87/70/c	77/68/t
Cleveland	86/70/pc	83/68/t
Dallas	104/81/s	98/71/s
Denver	89/61/t	91/67/t
Des Moines	80/64/t	83/65/pc
Detroit	89/70/c	80/66/t
El Paso	107/79/s	99/76/t
Fairbanks, AK	73/49/pc	75/55/pc
Fargo, ND	84/58/t	88/65/s
Hartford, CT	82/63/pc	85/68/pc
Honolulu	89/77/sh	88/77/pc
Houston	99/79/s	99/79/pc
Indianapolis	86/69/pc	79/66/t
Jackson, MS	93/77/t	93/71/t
Jacksonville, FL	93/75/t	92/74/t
Kansas City, MO	88/66/t	80/63/pc
Las Vegas	111/89/s	114/92/s
Little Rock	99/79/t	91/72/t
Los Angeles	92/69/s	93/70/s
Louisville	88/71/c	82/70/t
Memphis	92/79/t	88/72/t
Miami	94/79/t	93/80/t
Milwaukee	80/67/r	71/63/t
Minneapolis	74/66/r	88/64/pc
Nashville	91/75/pc	87/70/t
New Orleans	93/79/t	93/79/t
New York City	84/70/pc	85/70/pc
Norfolk	86/71/pc	87/73/pc
Oklahoma City	102/70/t	94/65/s
Omaha	81/63/t	85/64/s
Orlando	90/75/t	90/76/t
Philadelphia	88/71/s	90/73/pc
Phoenix	115/92/s	117/94/s
Pittsburgh	85/65/s	85/69/pc
Portland, ME	80/62/pc	78/66/pc
Portland, OR	87/61/s	75/56/pc
Providence, RI	80/66/sh	82/66/pc
Raleigh, NC	91/69/s	89/73/c
Reno, NV	101/63/s	104/62/s
Richmond	88/68/s	88/70/c
Sacramento	98/60/s	100/62/s
St. Louis	81/71/t	73/67/t
St. Thomas, VI	92/81/sh	91/80/c
Salt Lake City	102/74/s	106/78/s
San Diego	80/69/pc	81/71/pc
San Francisco	72/57/s	73/56/s
San Juan, PR	90/78/t	90/78/sh
Seattle	82/59/s	71/56/sh
Spokane, WA	91/64/s	88/50/s
Syracuse	84/63/pc	88/70/t
Tampa	89/79/t	88/79/r
Wichita	95/69/s	90/66/s

WORLD	Today	Tomorrow
Addis Ababa	71/55/sh	66/55/sh
Amsterdam	75/55/sh	74/56/s
Athens	91/76/s	89/75/s
Auckland	60/43/sh	57/38/sh
Baghdad	120/91/s	120/96/s
Bangkok	87/79/r	92/79/r
Beijing	92/80/sh	93/79/t
Berlin	88/66/pc	76/55/sh
Bogota	68/50/sh	67/46/r
Brussels	81/56/pc	79/55/c
Buenos Aires	69/60/r	65/52/t
Cairo	99/78/pc	102/79/pc
Caracas	76/68/r	76/68/t
Copenhagen	72/60/pc	72/56/pc
Dakar	90/80/pc	87/81/r
Dublin	67/48/pc	70/49/pc
Edinburgh	64/49/sh	66/49/pc
Frankfurt	92/66/t	83/63/t
Geneva	86/64/t	89/64/t
Ham., Bermuda	86/78/t	87/78/c
Helsinki	76/56/t	74/53/pc
Ho Chi Minh City	88/77/r	92/77/r
Hong Kong	85/79/t	84/78/t
Islamabad	85/76/t	90/77/t
Istanbul	84/72/s	86/73/s
Jerusalem	91/73/s	93/75/s
Johannesburg	64/39/s	66/40/pc
Kabul	89/68/pc	91/69/pc
Kingston, Jam.	91/82/sh	90/81/r
Kolkata	88/80/r	90/80/r
Kyiv	83/63/s	88/64/s
Lagos	85/76/t	83/76/t
Lima	77/70/pc	76/68/pc
Lisbon	85/66/s	89/66/s
London	79/56/s	79/58/pc
Madrid	100/71/s	100/70/s
Manila	94/78/t	93/79/t
Mexico City	78/55/r	78/56/r
Montreal	81/66/pc	82/70/t
Moscow	77/57/s	82/64/pc
Mumbai	83/80/r	88/81/r
Nairobi	76/57/r	77/56/c
New Delhi	92/79/r	91/80/t
Oslo	72/51/pc	71/51/r
Ottawa	84/64/pc	82/64/t
Paris	85/63/pc	83/60/t
Prague	98/68/s	82/60/t
Rio de Janeiro	76/66/sh	78/65/s
Riyadh	112/88/s	114/90/s
Rome	95/71/s	94/72/s
San Salvador	94/70/t	92/69/pc
Santiago	56/36/r	56/47/pc
Sarajevo	94/62/s	97/61/s
Seoul	92/79/sh	93/78/t
Shanghai	101/82/t	102/82/t
Singapore	92/80/t	90/80/pc
Stockholm	73/52/pc	70/51/s
Sydney	63/46/s	63/46/pc
Taipei City	94/80/pc	96/81/sh
Tehran	95/76/s	96/78/s
Tokyo	94/81/sh	94/82/t
Toronto	86/69/pc	80/66/t
Vienna	102/74/s	97/70/pc
Warsaw	98/70/t	88/66/t

Moon Phases

Aug 5	Aug 12	Aug 19	Aug 28
Last Quarter	New	First Quarter	Full

Solar system

	Rise	Set
Sun	6:08 a.m.	8:20 p.m.
Moon	9:31 p.m.	8:01 a.m.
Venus	9:57 a.m.	10:19 p.m.
Mars	2:35 a.m.	5:25 p.m.
Jupiter	6:01 a.m.	8:16 p.m.
Saturn	11:16 p.m.	11:44 a.m.

Key: **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **r**-rain, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice

Sources: **AccuWeather.com**; US Army Centralized Allergen Extract Lab (pollen data); airnow.gov (air quality data); National Weather Service

* AccuWeather's **RealFeel Temperature®** combines over a dozen factors for an accurate measure of how the conditions really "feel."

NATHAN HOWARD/REUTERS

A golden sheen

Street signage Thursday near the newly regilded statues in the Arts of War installation on the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

The Guide to Offers
The Washington Post

Enter for the chance to win a pair of tickets to KALEO – Way Down We Go Tour

Icelandic rock powerhouse KALEO is bringing their signature blend of blues, indie folk, and alternative rock to the stage for an unforgettable night. Known for their gritty sound, soaring vocals, and unmistakable resonator guitar, KALEO delivers a live performance you won't want to miss. Opening the show is Dogpark, the fast-rising band that got its start playing basement shows and backyard parties while attending college in Virginia. Don't miss this unforgettable night of live music!

See details at washingtonpost.com/entertainment/events/lists/388

WEEKEND

Soft serve that makes us melt

Which local spots put the best twist on this summer classic? Page 9

CHRISTINE KAO/THE WASHINGTON POST

MUSIC
The top concerts to see in August, from smaller venues to big outdoor shows. **6**

MOVIES
Franchise fatigue is no foe for new Spider-Man film, which finds ways to shine. **14**

MOVIES
Gregg Araki's refreshing rom-com "I Want Your Sex" has a message for Gen Z. **15**

the GUIDE to the Lively Arts

SHOW NAME	DATES & TIMES	DESCRIPTION	DETAILS	PRICE	ADDITIONAL
THEATRE					
STAGECOACH THEATRE COMPANY **Spies and Cyanide** Murder Mystery Dinner	June 28 - August 28	Experience intrigue, espionage, and murder with the Culper Spy Ring in this interactive Revolutionary War mystery.	**In/Near Loudoun County, VA. Check our website for details. StageCoachTC.com**	$57-105 based on venue and menu	571-477-9444
MUSIC - CONCERTS					
THE US ARMY BAND PERSHING'S OWN **70 Years of Singing Service** The U.S. Army Chorus	SATURDAY AUGUST 8 4 PM	Join The U.S. Army Chorus as it celebrates its service to the nation through music. Meet members of the chorus and learn about the ensemble's legacy and modernization through the years. Free and open to the public.	**National Presbyterian Church 4101 Nebraska Ave., NW Washington, DC** **USARMYBAND.COM**	ALWAYS FREE	See the website for full schedule!
THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BAND WASHINGTON, D.C. **Summer Concert Series** with Max Impact	Saturday, August 1 at 7 P.M.	Join the U.S. Air Force Band for a FREE concert in the Summer Concert Series on Saturday evening at Plaza Stage at the National Harbor Waterfront. FREE and open to the public, no tickets required! All outdoor concerts are subject to weather cancellation. Check our social media for cancellation information.	**Plaza Stage National Harbor Blvd Oxon Hill, MD** **MORE INFORMATION AT USAIRFORCEBAND.COM**	FREE	Find The U.S. Air Force Band on FB/IG @ USAFBand and YouTube @ TheUSAF Band
THE US ARMY BAND PERSHING'S OWN **Summer Capitol Concert** Country Roads (bluegrass)	FRIDAY July 31 at 7 PM	Bring a chair or blanket and enjoy! An inclement-weather cancellation call will be made NLT 3 PM and posted on the Army Band's website. Double-check weather reports as emergency conditions could force an on-site cancellation.	**West Plaza of the U.S. Capitol Washington, DC** **usarmyband.com**	ALWAYS FREE	See website for full concert schedule!

The Guide to the Lively Arts appears: • Sunday in Arts & Style. deadline: Tues., 12 noon
• Monday in Style. deadline: Friday, 12 noon • Tuesday in Style. deadline: Mon., 12 noon • Wednesday in Style. deadline: Tues., 12 noon
• Thursday in Style. deadline: Wed., 12 noon • Friday in Weekend. deadline: Tues., 12 noon • Saturday in Style. deadline: Friday, 12 noon
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Best Bets Noteworthy events this week

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A swirl of vegan mango and cardamom yogurt at Malai.

WEEKEND

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A game at last year's Otakon. Attendees at this year's convention can show off their talents during a K-pop dance competition.

Otakon

This annual convention devoted to Asian pop culture, spanning everything from anime to the music of video games, advertises itself as "for fans, by fans." The volunteer-run Otakon takes over D.C.'s Walter E. Washington Convention Center for a weekend with a dizzying array of activities, including anime bingo, cosplay meetups, open-mic karaoke, costume competitions, a car show and crafting classes. Attendees can also show off their talents during a masquerade ball, idol stages and a K-pop dance competition. Voice actors, singers, animation producers, writers and other VIPs are expected to make appearances and sign autographs.

PHOTOS BY ERIC LEE/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The annual convention, which celebrates Asian pop culture, includes costume competitions and cosplay meetups.

When: Friday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 a.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1:15 a.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place NW. *otakon.com*.
Tickets: $45-$70 for single-day admission; $110 for full-weekend tickets; $55 for children ages 9 to 12 for all three days; free for children ages 8 and younger.

Fairfax County Carnival and 4-H Fair

In a rapidly changing world, it's nice to stop and appreciate some things that are truly timeless, like a 4-H Fair. This is the 76th edition in Fairfax County, bringing young competitors to show off prize pigs, rabbits, sheep and goats, among other animals, in multiple barns. Judges will award prizes in dozens of categories — needlework, woodworking, jams, flowers, cookies and black-and-white photographs. There are hands-on activities on Saturday and Sunday. The carnival comes to town, setting up exciting rides and games, while little kids can explore big trucks and tractors on Friday night.

When: Friday through Sunday. Friday: Carnival from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Big Truck Night from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday: Carnival from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; 4-H activities from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday: Carnival from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. 4-H activities from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Rd., Herndon. *fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/4H-fair*.

Admission: Free. Carnival ride prices vary; parking $10.

Black Books Matter Fest

Nikole Hannah-Jones, Michael Harriot, S.A. Cosby and T.L. Price are among the authors coming to National Harbor this weekend for Mahogany Books' third Black Books Matter Fest. Free tickets have been claimed for the day's author panels, though people waiting in line may be able to claim unused seats. The day includes book-signing sessions, a marketplace with vendors and independent authors, story time and crafts for kids, a DJ and other attractions.

When: Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Mahogany Books, 121 American Way, Oxon Hill. *mahoganybooks.com*.

Admission: Free. Free tickets required for author panels.

Dog Days Summer Sidewalk Sale

The stretch of 14th Street NW between Logan Circle and U Street is for more than brunching this weekend. The Dog Days Summer Sidewalk Sale launched all the way back in 2000, when 14th Street was a very different place, but it has managed to keep an annual spotlight on the neighborhood's small businesses. Highlights this year include discounts from 15 to 20 percent at merchants like Salt & Sundry and Current Boutique, and a sidewalk sale at Logan Hardware. The Transformer art gallery has its Flatfile, featuring affordable works by dozens of artists, available for browsing, while the DC Art Glass Studio is hosting an open studio and sale. Dozens of makers and artisans are setting up on the sidewalks, selling jewelry, vintage clothing, home decor and accessories. (See the event website for a map and more details.) While you browse, check out the specials at restaurants, including half-price hot dogs and Happy Ice Cream at Garden District, and a walk-up frosé window at Cork Wine Bar.

When: Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: 14th St. NW between N and T streets. *districtbridges.org*.

Admission: Free.

Hillwood After Hours

When it comes to museum after-hours events, it's hard to beat Hillwood's lush gardens and opulent mansion. The former home of heiress Marjorie Merriweather Post is surrounded by acres of gardens, each with their own personality. During Hillwood After Hours, visitors can tour "Interwoven: A Tradition in Textiles," a new exhibition that mixes antique pieces from Hillwood's collection with recent works from fiber artists, and talk to the curators. They can also explore the Japanese Garden, the Rose Garden and the greenhouse, and play lawn games on the scenic Lunar Lawn. Other activities include making an embroidery collage, or weaving and upcycling demonstrations. There's live go-go-infused jazz from the JoGo Project outdoors, as well as cocktails for purchase.

When: Wednesday from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Where: Hillwood Museum and Gardens, 4155 Linnean Ave. NW. *hillwoodmuseum.org*.

Tickets: $25; $15 students; $5 for ages 6 to 18; free for children age 5 and younger.

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Plan Ahead
Noteworthy events over the next few weeks

Aug. 24-30 Metropolitan Washington Summer Restaurant Week

How often can you order multicourse meals in D.C. with dishes like paella chorizo y calamari from Fabio Trabocchi's award-winning Del Mar, beetroot salad topped with edible 24K gold at Kyojin, steak tartare at Cut by Wolfgang Puck in Georgetown, or hibiscus toffee pudding at Rasika Penn Quarter — and have the total bill clock in at $65 or less per diner? The Restaurant Association's Metropolitan Washington Restaurant Week happens only twice a year, and the summer edition brings deals from restaurants across D.C., Virginia and Maryland including many acclaimed spots like Elcielo, the Dabney, Amazonia, Mita and Moon Rabbit, as well as new hot spots, such as Rye Bunny and Catahoula. Three-course brunches and lunches clock in at either $25 or $35 per person, and a three-course dinner is either $40, $55 or $65 per person. Some restaurants create entirely new dishes for the occasion, like Fish Shop's "crumbed catfish with sauce gribiche and fries," which sounds like an upscale fish and chips, while Unconventional Diner and its sister restaurants are leaning into fan-favorite items, like chicken pot pie poppers and chocolate cake. *Various locations; see website for addresses and menus. ramw.org/restaurantweek. $25-$35 for brunch and lunch. $40-$65 for dinner.*

PHOTOS BY SCOTT SUCHMAN/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Score deals at acclaimed spots like Amazonia, a Peruvian restaurant in Blagden Alley, during Summer Restaurant Week.

The Dabney, another Blagden Alley spot, is also participating in Restaurant Week, which includes brunches, lunches and dinners.

Aug. 21 Ye Olde Craft Night at Merry Pin

You've secured your Maryland Renaissance Festival tickets, and now the big question is what to wear. D.C. creative studio Merry Pin to the rescue with Ye Olde Craft Night, where Ren Faire fans can whip up their own outfits. Three DIY stations cover all the instructions and supplies you need to make floral crowns or rustic leather belt bags, or spruce up a plain tee or other piece of clothing you already own. Pay for one or more crafting stations in advance, or if you already have a vision, bring your own costume supplies and join in. *5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Merry Pin, 7350 Georgia Ave. NW. merrypindc.com. Free to RSVP, $16-$18 for crafting stations, $14 to $28 for DIY upgrades with or without sewing machine rentals.*

Aug. 22-30 National Park Week

America's National Park Service is celebrating a big birthday this year, turning 110 — just 140 years younger than the Declaration of Independence. National Park Week celebrates both of those milestones this year, with themed days like "Safety Sunday" and "Watch Wildlife Wednesday." The capstone is the 110th birthday celebration on Aug. 25, which waives the fee at all national parks. Save a few bucks when entering Great Falls Park, normally priced at $20 for private vehicles, and join a special 1.5-mile commemorative hike at 11 a.m. in honor of the park's 60th birthday. Or plan a trip to Maryland's Catoctin Mountain Park on National Junior Ranger Day on Aug. 22, where little naturalists can play bingo, earn junior ranger badges, pose in a photo booth and participate in a guided hike. Find more experiences on the National Park Service's website. *Various locations. nps.gov. Free.*

Aug. 22 Leesburg Festival of Crafts & Kites

Colorful creations are everywhere you look at the Leesburg Festival of Crafts & Kites, where kites fill the sky and artisans sell their wares in outdoor stalls. The free, pet-friendly festival takes place regardless of the weather, but hopefully there is a nice breeze. In addition to kite-flying, families can check out activities for kids and browse vendors selling crepes, DIY teddy bears in a mobile stuffed animal factory and more. *11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ida Lee Park Recreation Center, 60 Ida Lee Drive NW, Leesburg. visitloudoun.org. Free.*

Aug. 27-30 Femme Art Fair

Tickets are on sale for D.C.'s inaugural Femme Art Fair, which will take over 35,000 square feet at the Square food hall in downtown D.C. to exhibit work by more than 100 established and emerging women artists. The team behind the Umbrella Art Fair envisions this event — timed around Women's Equality Day on Aug. 26 — as both a marketplace and a platform to create opportunity and visibility for women artists. The fair includes daily programming, such as a conversation featuring the anonymous collective Guerrilla Girls, who began provocatively campaigning against sexism and racism in the art world in 1985. *Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Square, 1850 K St. NW. femmeartfair.com. $21.05-$23.18 for single-day tickets and $44.52 for a weekend pass.*

— Adele Chapin

MUSEUMS

*The following special exhibitions are on view at area museums. For a complete list of all permanent, indefinite and long-term exhibitions, please consult individual museum websites. Museums marked with an * are free.*

***AMERICAN UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AT THE KATZEN ARTS CENTER** The museum's summer exhibitions are "A. Brockie Stevenson: An American Vision," "Ghost in the Machine: Works by Timothy Makepeace," "Where Water Keeps Time: Graphite Drawings by Janis Goodman," "Susan Goldman: Prima Vista" "Bonnie Lautenberg: Artistica! Where Hollywood Meets Art History," "Richard Dana: People, Places and Otherwise" and "Gail Rebhan: What Questions Do We Ask?" 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW. *american.edu/cas/museum*

***ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY MUSEUM** "We Make History," through Jan. 2, 2028. Letters, photographs, sports memorabilia and more convey how community stories form the nation's foundation. 1901 Fort Pl. SE. *anacostia.si.edu*

***ARTS AND INDUSTRIES BUILDING** "Voices and Votes: Exploring Democracy Across America," through Sept. 7. This traveling exhibition about civic participation and representation arrives in the temporarily reopened building. 900 Jefferson Drive SW. *si.edu/arts-and-industries*

CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM "Blacklisted: An American Story," through Sept. 7. On loan from Jewish Museum Milwaukee, this exhibition explores the Red Scare and the Hollywood blacklist through film, personal narratives, artifacts, costumes and photography. 575 Third St. NW. *capitaljewishmuseum.org*

***DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MUSEUM** "Revolution in Their Words," through March 27. This exhibition explores the fight for American independence through four sections: words of diplomacy, words of the people, words of resistance and words in print. 1776 D St. NW. *dar.org/collections/museum*

***DUMBARTON OAKS** "Medallions: The Art of Politics and Generosity," through August. A courtyard gallery exhibition that examines how Roman medallions represented the intersection of art, celebration, politics and status. 1703 32nd St. NW. *doaks.org*

***FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY** "Shakespeare and the American Story," through Sunday. Items from the Folger collection explore how the British playwright became so integral to American culture. "Imagining Shakespeare: Mythmaking and Storytelling in the Regency Era," through Sunday. Seen on view together for the first time since London's Boydell Shakespeare Gallery closed in 1805, 14 paintings depict pivotal scenes from William Shakespeare's plays while also speaking to how the playwright was refashioned into a cultural icon. 201 East Capitol St. SE. *folger.edu*

***GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AND TEXTILE MUSEUM** "Generations D.C.," through Nov. 7. A generation-spanning installation telling the stories of laborers, activists and artists in the nation's capital. "Revolutionary Echoes in Washington," through Nov. 7. A collection of letters, maps and illustrations studies how the ideas behind the Declaration of Independence resonated in D.C. 701 21st St. NW. *museum.gwu.edu*

HILLWOOD ESTATE, MUSEUM AND GARDEN "Interwoven: A Tradition of Textiles," through Jan. 3. A meditation on textiles that considers their function as decorative objects, expressions of identity and more. 4155 Linnean Ave. NW. *hillwoodmuseum.org*

***HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN** "Basquiat × Banksy," through Sept. 7. The exhibition highlighting two paintings, one by Jean-Michel Basquiat and one by Banksy, marks the first time either artist's work has been presented at the museum. "Revolutions: Art From the Hirshhorn Collection, 1860-1960," through Nov. 1. This collection presents 208 artworks made during a period defined by evolutions in science, philosophy and mechanization. "Adam Pendleton: Love, Queen," through Jan. 3. A collection of the American conceptual artist's work features his paintings and a new video installation. "Big Things for Big Rooms," through July 4. This two-part exhibition explores the development of immersive, large-scale artworks since the late 1960s. Seventh Street and Independence Avenue SW. *hirshhorn.si.edu*

INTERNATIONAL SPY MUSEUM "Camouflage: Designed to Deceive," ongoing. An immersive look at camouflage and its myriad uses in espionage. 700 L'Enfant Plaza SW. *spymuseum.org*

***LIBRARY OF CONGRESS** "The Declaration's Promise: A Revolutionary Idea," through July 3. This exhibition, which analyzes the founding principles of the Declaration of Independence, includes Thomas Jefferson's draft of the document. Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First St. SE. *loc.gov*

MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE "Dead Sea Scrolls," through Sept. 7. An exhibition featuring biblical texts and scrolls from the community at Qumran in the West Bank, plus artifacts that exemplify life and Judaism during the Second Temple period. 400 Fourth St. SW. *museumofthebible.org*

***NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM** Five new galleries are ongoing amid the museum's renovations: "Aerospace and Our Changing Environment," "Futures in Space," "Boeing Milestones of Flight," "Barron Hilton Pioneers of Flight" and "World War I: The Birth of Military Aviation." Sixth Street and Independence Avenue SW. *airandspace.si.edu*

***NATIONAL ARCHIVES MUSEUM** "The American Story," ongoing. A redesign of the museum's permanent exhibits highlights an 1823 stone engraving of the Declaration of Independence, George Washington's annotated copy of the Constitution and more. 701 Constitution Ave. NW. *museum.archives.gov*

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM "The Playground," through Aug. 30. This installation transforms the Great Hall into an interactive ode to parks and playgrounds. "Brick City," through Aug. 30. U.K.-based artist Warren Elsmore uses Lego pieces to re-create destinations from all seven continents, including New Orleans during Mardi Gras and medieval Japanese castles. "The Tuskegee Chapel: Paul Rudolph X Fry & Welch," ongoing. Sketches, models, brick replicas and a robotically built sculpture highlight the material and design innovation of a Tuskegee University landmark. "A Better Life for Their Children: Julius Rosenwald, Booker T. Washington, and the 4978 Schools That Changed America," ongoing. This exhibition features the narratives and photographs of Andrew

SEE **EXHIBITS** ON **13**

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HELLE ARENSBAK/RITZAU SCANPIX/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Dave Grohl, left, and the Foo Fighters come to Nationals Park on Aug. 17 in support of their punky 12th studio album, "Your Favorite Toy."

On deck at D.C.-area venues: Open-air shows, hot up-and-comers

BY MARK JENKINS

August is the peak of the outdoor concert season, so it's no surprise that half of the month's live-music highlights are open-air. As always, though, there are up-and-comers worth checking out in the area's smaller venues.

Tennessee native **Zoh Amba** played saxophone as a kid and debuted with a 2022 album on the label run by avant-jazz exponent John Zorn. But the new album, "Eyes Full," finds Amba strumming guitar and singing with a distinctively cracked voice. The result is a punky brand of country blues that's wild, strange and compelling. *(Saturday at 8 p.m. at Pearl Street Warehouse, 33 Pearl St. SW. unionstagepresents.com. $21.)*

Iceland is a musical powerhouse known for sounds that are often ethereal and atmospheric. One notable exception is **Kaleo**, a quintet whose American-style blues rock is raw and earthy. This tour celebrates the release of the 10th-anniversary edition of the band's breakthrough album, "A/B." The expanded version places never-heard tracks alongside such hits as the brooding "Way Down We Go." *(Aug. 8 at 8 p.m. at the Anthem, 901 Wharf St. SW. theanthemdc.com. $58-$91.)*

Best known for soaring with Jefferson Airplane, guitarist Jorma Kaukonen and bassist Jack Casady met as students at D.C.'s Woodrow Wilson (now Jackson-Reed) High School in the early 1960s. The duo has performed with various incarnations of trad-blues outfit **Hot Tuna** off and mostly on for 57 years. While the electric incarnation of Tuna did a farewell tour in 2023, the acoustic version continues to play Delta and Chicago classics with verve and heart. *(Aug. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. birchmere.com. $87 box office; $96 online.)*

NICK ZINNER

Fans of country blues may want to check out Zoh Amba, who brings their wild, strange take on the genre to Pearl Street on Saturday.

This tour marks the 10th anniversary of **Noname**'s provocative debut mixtape, "Telefone." But the Chicago rapper and activist isn't just looking to the past. Noname is headed forward into "the big leagues," as she proclaims in her insistent new single, "Squatter." *(Aug. 9 at 8 p.m. at the Howard Theatre, 620 T St. NW. thehowardtheatre.com. Sold out; waiting list open.)*

Part of the northern-British alt-rock continuum that stretches from the Fall to the Arctic Monkeys, the Leeds, England, quartet **Yard Act** deftly balances declamatory vocals, spiky guitar and boom-boom rhythms. The band's newly released third album,

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

DAVID BECKER/GETTY IMAGES

Jon Batiste, left, who led the "Late Show With Stephen Colbert" band, performs with the National Symphony Orchestra at Wolf Trap on Aug. 21. Asake, below, who blends hip-hop with African pop chorales, comes to Merriweather in late August.

PARAS GRIFFIN/GETTY IMAGES

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

"You're Gonna Need a Little Music," is a series of intense dialogues — among guitar, bass and drums, but also singer-lyricist James Smith's multiple personae. *(Aug. 14 at 8 p.m. (doors) at the Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW. blackcatdc.com. $37.)*

Dave Grohl's **Foo Fighters** will always be a stadium rock band, but the sextet's 12th studio album, "Your Favorite Toy," sounds almost as punky as the Northern Virginia bands in which the drummer-turned-front man got his start in the 1980s. For all the vehemence of the new material, Grohl remains a crowd-pleaser, so such old favorites as "Everlong" will surely be heard. *(Aug. 17 at 5:30 p.m. at Nationals Park, 1500 S. Capitol St. SE. mlb.com/nationals/tickets/concerts/foo-fighters. $125-$292.)*

If the Eagles were country rock, **Jason Aldean** is rock country — plaintive vocals and red-state attitude atop crunching electric guitars. His chart-topping 2008 ode to rural women, "She's Country," sounds more like Aerosmith than Hank Williams. The Nashville hitmaker will be joined by Luke Bryan, who has a more traditional country sound but is enough of an Aldean acolyte to have recently released a hymn to a woman who's "Country and She Knows It." *(Aug. 20 at 4 p.m. at Nationals Park, 1500 S. Capitol St. SE. mlb.com/nationals/tickets/concerts/doubledown. $65-$341.)*

JAMES WINSTANLEY

JUSTIN PAGANO

The new album by Yard Act, left, is a series of intense dialogues among guitar, bass, drums and singer-lyricist James Smith's multiple personae. The English band comes to Black Cat on Aug. 14. Kaleo, above, hails from Iceland, but don't expect anything ethereal or atmospheric at its Anthem show — just earthy American-style blues rock.

Leading the "Late Show With Stephen Colbert" band, **Jon Batiste** played plenty of pop and rock. But the three albums the pianist will release on Aug. 14 reveal his true interests: jazz and classical. Two records interpret the music of Thelonious Monk, one as "meditations" and the other as "movements"; the third album is "Black Mozart," which features such updates as "Gospel Andante." Batiste's backup band for this gig is the National Symphony Orchestra, so he will probably lean into his classical repertoire. *(Aug. 21 at 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Rd., Vienna. wolftrap.org. Sold out; waiting list open.)*

Dubfire and Sharam, of the Iranian-American deep house duo **Deep Dish**, thrilled dancers in their native D.C. for a decade before undertaking separate careers in 2006. Reunited full-time in 2024, the partners have released one single, the chill but driving "Midnight," and have operated DJ booths at major clubs worldwide. *(Aug. 22 at 6 p.m. at Berhta, 1237 W St. NE. berhtaclub.com. $36.)*

Where an earlier generation of African musicians combined Indigenous folk music with American soul, rock and jazz, the Nigerian singer and rapper **Asake** blends hip-hop with African pop chorales. Asake's music is lush and layered, with abundant mainstream appeal, yet retains the street-level attitude that led him to title his latest album "M$ney." *(Aug. 28 at 8:30 p.m. at Merriweather Post Pavilion, 10475 Little Patuxent Pkwy., Columbia. merriweathermusic.com. $63-$387.)*

Ask Elazar

Excerpts from Post food critic Elazar Sontag's online discussion

BY ELAZAR SONTAG

DEB LINDSEY/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A vegan ramen bowl with sautéed mushrooms, spinach, scallions and bamboo shoots at Menya Hosaki.

Q: What's the best way to navigate a wine list when you know nothing about wine?
A: Ask your server! Or, if it's a restaurant with a sommelier, ask to speak with them. In my experience, though it can be intimidating to talk about wine without the robust vocabulary that a sommelier might have, these wine professionals are often most excited to talk to people they feel they can educate or introduce to exciting things. Instead of feeling like you have to come equipped with big wine world words or an exhaustive understanding of growing regions, think about the flavors and attributes you most enjoy in any kind of drink — like coffee or juice. Do you like something fruity? Do you like when grape juice has lots of tannins and makes your mouth go all fuzzy? Are your favorite drinks really acidic? Talk to a sommelier like they're your friend instead of like you're trying to pass a test without studying, and they are likely to send you in a direction you'll be very happy with.

Q: Why isn't there more objection to the rising number of restaurants where the noise level exceeds 100 decibels?
A: If you are a longtime reader of this chat, you will know that there is quite a lot of objection! I'll take this as a chance to remind the group that we include sound levels at the very bottom of each review so you can get a general sense of how noisy your meal will be. I eat in some very noisy restaurants, but I don't think my noise meter has ever gotten close to a sustained 100 decibels.

Q: There is a local restaurant that I frequent often and order the same dish maybe half the time. I'm friends with a waitress and friendly with the wait staff. My last visit the dish I ordered was mediocre — lack of seasoning and the sauce was not right. I didn't complain because it wasn't overtly bad, but should I mention it to anyone? To my friend? I don't want to be rude, but if that was my place, I'd like the feedback. I don't want to leave a bad public review. Thoughts?
A: Is this the first time the dish has ever been subpar? You clearly love this restaurant and like this one dish enough to put it on repeat, so I'm assuming it hasn't disappointed you before. If I'm correct, I'd probably just treat it as a one-off and move on, especially since it doesn't sound like it was terrible. However, if the dish seems to be sliding downhill, or you notice changes to the restaurant that seem to signal a broader shift away from quality, you could ask the server you're friendly with if something has changed in the kitchen, or point out that a favorite dish isn't as consistent as it used to be.

Q: I live in Southern California and have had two strange, related experiences in the past month at two restaurants I frequent and love. At the first, I ordered a panzanella and it arrived as a beautiful tomato salad with three croutons. Delicious croutons — but for a bread salad? I asked the server, who confirmed that was correct, though they kindly brought out a few more. At the second, we splurged on the most expensive item on the menu — scallops with risotto — and it came with two scallops. For a $60-plus entrée. The manager explained that rising food costs meant they'd cut back the portion, and comped us a couple of oysters for the trouble. I'm sympathetic to what restaurants are up against with costs, and I was polite at both places. But something about both experiences sat wrong with me. Is this quiet portion-shrinking becoming more common? And is there a better way to handle it in the moment than just asking the server and hoping for the best?
A: Anecdotally, it does seem to me that more restaurants are adjusting portion sizes (especially for expensive proteins like scallops) to manage costs and tight margins. What I've noticed even more is how painfully expensive some dishes have become. It sounds like you handled both disappointing experiences well. My best advice is to ask before you order. It might feel silly/awkward/weird to talk about portions when ordering, but there's absolutely nothing wrong with asking how big a steak is, how many scallops come with the risotto, etc. And if the portion sounds meager for the price, you are absolutely justified in ordering something else. Your server is unlikely to care or give it a second thought, and this is a smoother process than trying to address a disappointing portion *after* your food has already arrived. At that point, things really can get awkward.

Q: What qualities do you think are essential for a great crab cake?
A: Mostly good sweet meat, a little bit of seasoning and a nice sharp sauce to boot.

Q: Have you ever been utterly blown away by a restaurant, diner or cafe when traveling that you walked into for a meal, just because you were hungry? No recommendations or prior knowledge of. In other words, luck of the draw.
A: Absolutely. It's how I found many of my favorite restaurants while traveling in Oaxaca, Tokyo and even throughout the United States. There is a unique satisfaction in walking into a restaurant with no idea what is about to happen and then being blown away. Restaurant lists are great, and I use local reviews and lists extensively when traveling, but I also try to leave some room for discovery. Those are often the best meals and experiences.

Q: I have a college-age son whose favorite food is ramen. He loves our local place in Clarendon, Hanabi. I was wondering if you had any recommendations for particularly good ramen in D.C. or Northern Virginia.
A: I quite like **Menya Hosaki**, and I think he'd be very happy with the quality of their broth and noodles.

Q: Great article on solo dining, and my biggest challenge is that I feel guilty taking a two- or four-top from a server; even though I tip generously with good service, I know it is often less than a bigger table. I am guessing a server feels differently about it than an owner, but should I feel guilty? As a side note, I do eat out solo about once a week, and like to check out new spots, but sit at the bar and the strategy I use is that I look at the menus and get a drink, and then read the room. If I like the vibe, bartender, and have some things to watch (e.g., kitchen, a good game, etc.), I'll stay. If not, I order food to go and try the food at home. Sort of best of both worlds.
A: Thanks! And no, I don't think you should feel guilty. If the restaurant has space when you arrive and is willing to seat you at a two-top or even a four-top, it's safe to assume they don't expect enough parties of three or four to come in during your dining slot that it will be an issue or cause them to lose business. They're in charge of making business decisions that are good for them; you're in charge of enjoying your meal. You're already tipping generously; there's not much else to do!

Q: When you review a restaurant, do you eat the entire portions you are served? Or do you only sample each dish? Or something in between?
A: I have become the king of leftovers. But I am also not the Anton Ego "if I don't love it, I don't swallow" type. I love to eat and treat most review visits like normal meals. I eat full portions of some dishes, I take smaller tastes of others, and I try not to order more than my party size can reasonably get through or take home. On rare occasion, if I've chatted up the table next to me and they're curious about something I've ordered, I'll pass it off to them.

Q: What are your thoughts on restaurants not posting prices online? This time it's newcomer the Oak Room in Georgetown. A chef with that prestigious pedigree clearly made a deliberate choice to hide prices. Maybe it's a strategy to capture only the one-percenters? But even for the wealthiest — and that neighborhood has no shortage of those — no potential customer wants to be treated as a sucker/ATM.
A: All menus should include prices! I don't want to pretend this isn't a $-for-services transaction — I'm going to be reminded when I pay the check, and I'd like to know how much I'll be paying. But to be clear, **the Oak Room** does share menu prices online. I'm not sure if you just missed them or something changed since you sent this question in, but they're there.

Q: I've been to a few restaurants recently where practically everything on the menu is listed as "Market Price." One restaurant provided a list of market prices for that day but the others, you are required to specifically ask the price of each item. What's up with this?
A: Sorry to offer up the obvious, but I'm guessing it's because major components of those dishes change often, or their prices change regularly. Perhaps it's a result of unreliable ingredient costs these days, or maybe it's restaurant-specific, and they're working with lots of fresh-caught seafood, etc.

Elazar Sontag hosts a weekly Q&A on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at *live.washingtonpost.com*.

PHOTOS BY CHRISTINE KAO/THE WASHINGTON POST

A search for the best swirl

Our interns sampled some of the District's finest soft-serve options, from the traditional to the trendy

BY JADE TRAN, NOAH WHITE, ZOE CUMMINGS, GREY BATTLE, TAYLOR SWINTON AND ELA JALIL

The temperature is spiking. The humidity is escalating. And the more D.C. swelters, the more a sweet treat soothes. ¶ Let's be honest: Who isn't on the quest for soft-serve ice cream in D.C.? Hard ice cream, which is churned for thickness instead of spun into a light, airy swirl, is easy enough to find. We were after the latter, so we sent our interns and an editorial aide to try soft-serve spots in several neighborhoods and rattle off some of the best.

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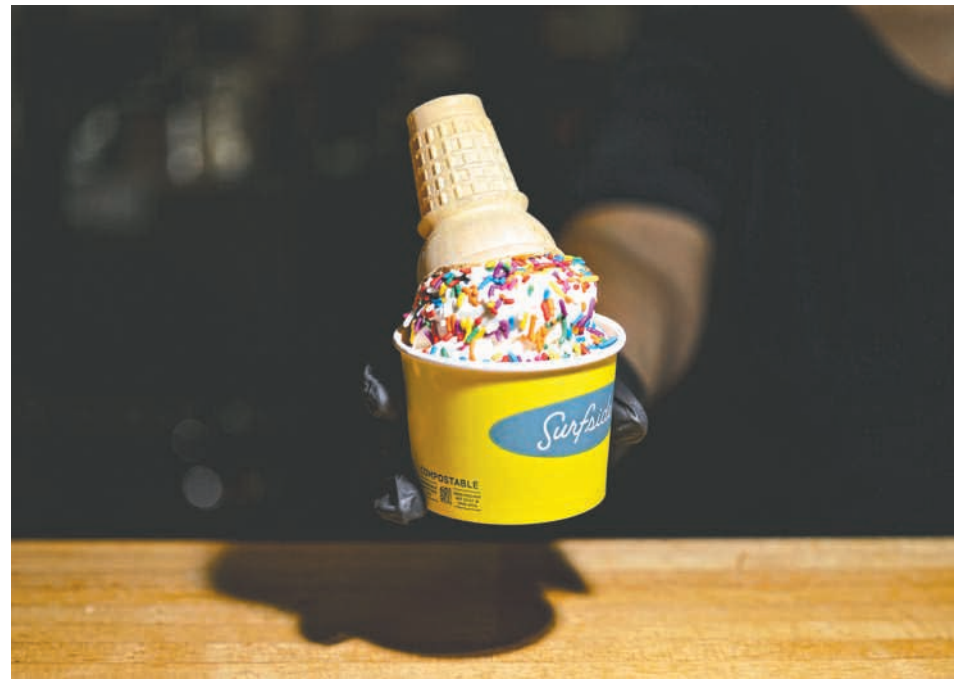

Film producer Janice Englehart and Uyghur human rights activist Jewher Ilham, top, try the soft serve at Malai. The menu at Surfside, a fresh-Mex restaurant in Tenleytown, includes a cup of vanilla soft serve with sprinkles, right.

TYLER M. ANDREWS/THE WASHINGTON POST

The soft-serve menu at Southwest Soda Pop Shop lists only the classics: vanilla and chocolate. The vanilla stood out for its frozen-yogurt-like consistency, not too thick or thin, making it perfect for a summer cone that won't melt too quickly.

TYLER M. ANDREWS/THE WASHINGTON POST

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Traditional

Surfside, a Tenleytown-based coastal fresh-Mex restaurant, proves that soft serve doesn't have to be complicated.

Customers can get vanilla, chocolate or a swirl, and they pay extra for toppings, including candy and syrups. The soft serve is thick and creamy, and the restaurant's atmosphere can even make Tenleytown feel like the beach. If you're looking to switch things up, you could get the "Voicemails for Isabelle"-esque dessert nachos or pair your soft serve with cream-filled churros. — *Ela Jalil*

Reliable

Located in a little shop with an old-school walk-up window, Southwest Soda Pop Shop is a Black-owned, family-run business that certainly stands its ground. The soft-serve menu lists only the classics: vanilla and chocolate. The vanilla with rainbow sprinkles tastes familiar, but it's the texture that stands out.

It has a frozen-yogurt-like consistency, not too thick and not too thin, making it perfect for a summer cone that won't melt *too* quickly. If you're looking for a traditional soft serve with typical toppings (and a generous helping of sprinkles), this is a great stop. Just a note that there's no indoor seating, though there are a few small tables outside. — *Jade Tran*

Tried and true

Once you've eaten your way through poke bowls and sushi at Fat Fish on the Wharf, a daring combination of guava sorbet and vanilla sky awaits, with the real standout: a taiyaki (a waffle cone shaped like a fish). The twist of flavors creates a blend of tanginess and creaminess in your mouth, though the vanilla ultimately steals the show. The guava adds a bright, fruity note but isn't necessary — the vanilla is strong enough to stand on its own.

TYLER M. ANDREWS/THE WASHINGTON POST

At Fat Fish on the Wharf, top, you can get a cup of guava and vanilla sky soft serve with a fish cone, above. The cakey fish cone is the best part — it's soft, fluffy and substantial.

The fish-shaped cone is undeniably the best part. It's the closest thing to cake. It's soft. It's fluffy. And it's substantial. Enough to make the ice cream feel like a complete dessert. This shop is the perfect go-to if you're looking for a classic taste (thanks to the vanilla) with a playful presentation after a date night. This one is high on the list of favorites among the interns. — *J.T.*

Trendy

A few minutes from the hustle and bustle of M Street in Georgetown is a quiet road that houses Spot of Tea. The teahouse has grown in popularity on social media because of its vibrant matcha flavors and bubble tea. The oat milk matcha and strawberry lychee soft serves are just an extension of what draws people to Spot of Tea locations (also in Dupont Circle and at Union Market).

To matcha lovers, the soft-serve swirl at the Georgetown location is a great spin on a beloved summer drink. The strawberry lychee balanced the strong taste of the matcha, creating a bittersweet flavor that leaves you wanting more. — *Taylor Swinton*

Nondairy

Yellow, the brainchild of Palestinian American chef Michael Rafidi, blends French and Middle Eastern cuisine in a stylish cafe off

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CHRISTINE KAO/THE WASHINGTON POST

Spot of Tea's soft-serve menu includes a matcha-and-strawberry-lychee swirl with a balanced, bittersweet flavor that leaves you wanting more.

CHRISTINE KAO/THE WASHINGTON POST

Yellow's tahini oat soft serve, which is topped with crunchy candied walnuts, is nutty, rich and not too sweet — more complex than your typical treat.

From the Cover

PHOTOS BY TYLER M. ANDREWS/THE WASHINGTON POST

The flavors at Frio Frio — including dulce de leche, above — are inspired by the owner's Caribbean and Latin American background.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Wisconsin Avenue. And its tahini oat soft serve is one of the best dairy-free desserts in D.C. It's nutty and rich, not too sweet, and more complex than your typical treat. The swirl is topped off with crunchy candied walnuts and served in a yellow cup.

Yellow is a place so special to our vegan intern, a self-taught expert in dairy-free sweets, that she even included the restaurant in her author bio. — *Grey Battle*

Toppings galore

Tucked inside La Cosecha at Union Market, Frio Frio is a delightful addition to the D.C. soft-serve market — with an island twist. The flavors are inspired by the owner's Caribbean and Latin American background. Some options are fruity (such as piña colada), and others decadent (such as dulce de leche). The toppings on the towering soft serve added some much appreciated crunch and texture variation. This intern's piña colada soft serve was accompanied by toasted coconut flakes, pineapple jam and a dried pineapple ring. It was delicious and — more importantly — Instagrammable.

Visitors not looking to chew through their desert could also build their own cup, but where is the fun in that? The new shop quickly became a favorite among the taste-testing interns. — *Zoe Cummings*

The vanilla soft serve at Love, Makoto is smooth and prepared in less than a minute. The Japanese spot off Massachusetts Avenue has a full-service, sit-down section, as well as a quick-serve counter.

Colorful

Unlike many other soft-serve options in D.C., Malai is a true ice cream stop. By no means is the soft serve not up to standard, but it almost gets lost among the U Street Corridor shop's many offerings. The soft-serve menu is tight and rotates, and the toppings are limited.

This summer, the soft-serve options are simple: vegan mango or cardamom yogurt (and is that really even soft serve?) Both grab the eye, and the mango's sharp yellow is truly distinct. Yet in a parlor full of unique fruity flavors, each drawing inspiration from South Asian spices, the eyeball-popping color of the mango might be worth more than the taste itself. — *Noah White*

Surprising

No matter when you drop by, Love, Makoto — the Japanese spot off Massachusetts Avenue — is going to have a crowd. The place is packed even at, say, 2 p.m. on a Monday, when a certain Post intern might be playing hooky from his sportswriting duties. And whether one is dining in the full-service, sit-down section of the restaurant or grabbing a bite at the quick-serve counter, they're probably taking the soft serve to go.

The vanilla is best, though the matcha option offers a unique twist few other joints in D.C. can match. It's smooth and prepared in less than a minute. For a restaurant that does so much else so well, it's the surprising star. — *N.W.*

Our final verdict

After a week and a half of hopping from one ice cream shop to the next (a sacrifice we were willing to make), our top picks were Fat Fish, Frio Frio and Yellow.

Together, they cover everything we wanted: a classic soft serve with a twist, a mountain of toppings and flavors, and a standout dairy-free option when we *all* need a break from milk.

EXHBITS FROM 5

Feiler, who tells the story of how thousands of schoolhouses were built across the segregated South.
"Coming Together: Reimagining America's Downtowns," ongoing. A multimedia exploration of how lessons learned during the pandemic are shaping the future of American city centers.
"Mini Memories: Souvenir Buildings From the David Weingarten Collection," ongoing. A showcase of 400 miniature building souvenirs from nearly 70 countries.
"House & Home," ongoing. A collection of photographs, models, films and objects that examine American homes both familiar and unconventional.
"Building Stories," ongoing. This immersive exhibition dives into the world of architecture, engineering, construction and design as depicted in children's books.
401 F St. NW. *nbm.org*

***NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART** "In the Tower: Chakaia Booker," through Sunday. This exhibition features three wall relief sculptures from Booker, who is renowned for turning discarded tires into abstract art.
"In the Library: Photobooks and American Energy," through Aug. 21. An examination of how photobooks have been used to scrutinize the U.S. energy industry and its impact.
"Beneath the Surface," through Aug. 23. Roughly 150 works show how photographers have depicted mining, drilling and fracking over the past 185 years.
"Mary Cassatt: An American in Paris," through Aug. 30. Forty paintings, drawings and prints marking the centennial of the painter's death.
"Niagara Falls: Mist and Majesty," through Sept. 20. Frederic Edwin Church's 1857 panorama anchors a presentation of some 20 works focused on Niagara Falls.
"Dear America: Artists Explore the American Experience," through Sept. 20. Featuring 100-plus works on paper, this installation highlights how artists have depicted the people, landscapes and ideas that define life in the United States.
"American Icon: The US Flag in Art," through Dec. 6. More than 30 works, including paintings, prints, photographs and video, convey varying interpretations of the American flag.
"Sky Hopinka: Kicking the Clouds," through Dec. 6. A multimedia exhibition shows how Hopinka uses language to deconstruct the contemporary Indigenous experience.
"Back and Forth: Rozeal., Titian, Cezanne," through Jan. 3. The striking similarities between Titian's 16th-century works and paintings by Rozeal. and Paul Cézanne are highlighted.
"Celebrating American Art," ongoing. The reimagined American art galleries feature new texts, digital tools and activities. Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue NW. *nga.gov.*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MUSEUM OF EXPLORATION "Photo Ark: Animals of Earth," through summer. An exhibition highlighting the work of Joel Sartore, a nature photographer renowned for his portraits of animals, including endangered species.
"Red, White & Blue," through December. Photographers explore the United States through the colors of the American flag.
1600 M St. NW. *moe.nationalgeographic.org*

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE**
"Reckoning: Protest. Defiance. Resilience.," ongoing. The exhibition focuses on the Black Lives Matter movement and art that depicts resistance and protest.
"Revelation: A Journey Into Abstraction," ongoing. This collection highlights abstract art created by African Americans since the mid-20th century.
"Reset: Abstraction Embodied in Design," ongoing. An exploration of how Black designers shape everyday spaces. 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW.
nmaahc.si.edu

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART**
"Here: Pride and Belonging in African Art," through Aug. 23. Featuring nearly 60 artworks, this exhibition showcases the contributions of LGBTQ+ artists from Africa and its diaspora.
"Benin Bronzes: Ambassadors of the Oba," ongoing. Nine bronze artifacts taken by the British during the Benin Punitive Expedition of 1897 are on display as part of a long-term loan from the National Commission for Museum and Monuments in Nigeria.
"Sanctuary: Mekdes," ongoing. Through seven sculptures, Ethiopian American artist Tsedaye Makonnen confronts the dehumanization of Black women, femme people and their communities.
"Visionary: Viewpoints on Africa's Arts," ongoing. An installation organized around seven viewpoints designed to shape the manner in which African art is experienced.
"Currents: Water in African Art," ongoing. Artworks from the museum's permanent collection underscore water's role as a potent cultural force. 950 Independence Ave. SW. *africa.si.edu*

PHILIP CHEUNG

"Vlada and Ilona Shelter in a Metro Station in Kharkiv, UA" (2022), from Philip Cheung's series "Russian Invasion of Ukraine," is part of the National Portrait Gallery's "Outwin 2025" exhibit.

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY** "In Pursuit of Life, Liberty, and Happiness," through December. This semiquincentennial celebration features 250 objects — including the desk used by Thomas Jefferson to draft the Declaration of Independence — spread over 250,000 square feet.
"¡Puro Ritmo! The Musical Journey of Salsa," ongoing. Featuring nearly 300 objects, this bilingual exhibition traces salsa's path to becoming a defining sound in American music.
"Corazón y Vida: Lowrider Culture," ongoing. This exhibition about lowriders — custom cars with elaborate paint jobs and hydraulics for bouncing — includes photography, tools of the trade and two classic Chevy Impalas. Constitution Avenue NW, between 12th and 14th streets. *americanhistory.si.edu*

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN** "Water's Edge: The Art of Truman Lowe," through Jan. 1. This retrospective of the Ho-Chunk artist features minimalist sculptures made of willow branches, feathers and other organic materials.
"Stretching the Canvas: Ten Decades of Native Painting," through spring 2027. Featuring more than 50 works, this exhibition examines the expansion of American Indian art after World War I.
"InSight: Photos and Stories From the Archives," ongoing. These photos, selected from more than half a million stewarded by the museum, offer intimate insight into Indigenous lives. Fourth Street and Independence Avenue SW.
americanindian.si.edu

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN ART**
"Vishnu's Cosmic Ocean," through Sept. 7. On loan from the National Museum of Cambodia, this six-meter sculpture of the Hindu god Vishnu is said to be the largest bronze ever cast in Southeast Asia.
"Into the Waters With Senju and Bingyi: Two Contemporary Paintings," through Sept. 27. A display featuring distinct visualizations of water from Japanese painter Hiroshi Senju and Chinese artist Bingyi.
"Saodat Ismailova: Melted Into the Sun," through Nov. 29. Text, archival footage and original film unpack Central Asia's traditions, oral histories and landscapes. 1050 Independence Ave. SW. *asia.si.edu*

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY** "Imagining Bison," through summer 2027. Historic books, paintings, photographs and objects convey portrayals of bison through the ages.
"Cellphone: Unseen Connections," through June 2028. This exhibition, about the way phones connect us to the natural world, features multimedia installations, a sprawling graphic novel and more than 750 objects.
"From These Lands: Sharing Our Natural and Cultural Heritage," through 2029. More than 600 specimens and cultural items represent the 50 states, D.C. and five U.S. territories.
"Bison: Standing Strong," ongoing. This ode to the United States' national mammal includes the six-foot skull of an ancient bison ancestor, an immersive soundscape, multimedia elements and Native objects. 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW.
naturalhistory.si.edu

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS "Burnished: Pueblo Pottery at NMWA," through Sept. 27. A display of 24 clay vessels from the museum's Pueblo pottery collection.
"Remix: The Collection," through Oct. 25. Familiar collection favorites are displayed alongside recent acquisitions. 1250 New York Ave. NW. *nmwa.org*

***NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY** "The Outwin 2025: American Portraiture Today," through Aug. 30. This selection highlights 30-plus portraits from more than 3,300 entries to the triennial Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition.
"American Winners: Athletes and Entertainers Who Shaped the Nation," through Sept. 7. More than 50 works from the gallery's collection highlight Americans at the pinnacle of athletic performance and creative expression.
"Portrait of a Nation: 2025 Honorees," through Nov. 15. Steven Spielberg, Temple Grandin and Jamie Dimon are among those depicted in this annual exhibition spotlighting those who have made extraordinary contributions to American culture.
"Star Power: Photographs From Hollywood's Golden Age by George Hurrell (A Sequel)," through Jan. 10. An encore installation featuring 20 photos of movie stars from the 1930s and '40s.
"The Spirit of Invention: Patent Office and Patentees," through June 6. An exhibition depicting the early history of the Patent Office through selections from the museum's collection.
"Meserve Collection Highlights: Modern Prints From Mathew Brady's Portrait Negatives," through May 14, 2028. Nine prints from 19th-century negatives feature the likes of Abraham Lincoln, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ulysses S. Grant and more. Eighth and F streets NW.
npg.si.edu

PHILLIPS COLLECTION "Juried Invitational," Saturday through Sept. 20. The product of an open call, this exhibition highlights works from 48 artists based in the D.C. region. 1600 21st St. NW.
phillipscollection.org

***RENWICK GALLERY** "State Fairs: Growing American Craft," through Sept. 7. More than 240 artworks, dating from the mid-19th century to the present, tell the personal stories of craft found on U.S. fairgrounds.
"Justin Favela: Capilla de Maíz (Maize Chapel)," ongoing. A site-specific installation lines the Rubenstein Grand Salon with gold fringe and piñata corncobs to highlight corn's role in North American visual culture. Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street NW.
americanart.si.edu

***RUBELL MUSEUM** "Basil Kincaid: Spirit in the Gift," through fall. A presentation of four large-scale quilted artworks created during Kincaid's 2023 residency at the Rubell Museum in Miami.
"Material Witness," through fall. Spanning 23 galleries across the museum's three floors, this exhibition highlights how 30 contemporary artists use nontraditional materials and processes. 65 I St. SW.
rubellmuseum.org/dc

***SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM**
"Artist to Artist," through Sunday. This rotating exhibition highlights eight artist pairings, each of which features two figures whose trajectories intersected at a key moment.
"Isaac Julien: Lessons of the Hour — Frederick Douglass," through Aug. 9. A joint purchase by the Portrait Gallery and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, this five-screen video installation uses period reenactments to create a portrait of the activist, writer, orator and philosopher Frederick Douglass.
"Shahzia Sikander: The Last Post," through Nov. 8. A 10-minute video artwork examines the East India Company's imperialist presence in South Asia and China from the 1600s to the 1800s.
"Nick Cave: Mammoth," through Jan. 3. The 67-year-old artist creates an immersive installation featuring the crafted hides and bones of mammoths, a video projection of the extinct animals and a sprawling light table with hundreds of transformed found objects. G and Eighth streets NW.
americanart.si.edu

Movies

Spider-Man: Brand New Day ★★★☆

SONY PICTURES

Remembering what makes Spidey special

Franchise baggage aside, this film sings with a lively NYC, stellar fights

BY GENE PARK

Tom Holland's Spider-Man has spent the last decade on-screen growing up fast. He went from a Queens kid to a member of the Avengers in one movie. By "Infinity War," he was in space and fighting demigods on alien planets.

Now the Marvel film overseers have decided that Peter Parker has to lose everything to fully, finally become a man. "Spider-Man: Brand New Day" is both a reboot and a sequel. It sounds absurd, and mostly works.

It's also a franchise exercise that fights mightily against the exhaustion that comes with the territory. The crossovers come as fast as ever: The Punisher arrives as one of Peter's closest allies. Florence Pugh's Black Widow suddenly appears on-screen with implied history and without introduction. Peter and Bruce Banner (Mark Ruffalo) resume their familiar and predictable mentor-student-antagonist dynamic.

JAY MAIDMENT/SONY PICTURES

In a movie that functions both as reboot and sequel, Tom Holland's Peter Parker, top, has to lose everything to fully, finally become a man. Zendaya, above, returns as Mary Jane.

Fortunately screenwriters Chris McKenna and Erik Sommers, who've written the past three Spidey films, do a lot of work to lift the burden of familiarity from the audience. They also understand Spider-Man has always lived in a crowded world. After all, the very first issue of his own comic in 1963 featured the Fantastic Four. Narrative shorthand tricks to catch people up don't always work: You're just going to have to roll with the existence of a cool gang of red-clad ninjas called The Hand and keep it moving.

The greatest success is Jon Bernthal's Punisher, in his first appearance alongside Tom Holland's Spidey. A running gag referencing an unseen Staten Island incident involving this good cop/bad cop pair arrives with the familiarity of an old pal. Their electrifying and hilarious chemistry is worthy of their history (the Punisher debuted as a Spider-Man villain in a comic that fetches a high price today). I wish the movie devoted its 2½-hour run time exclusively to them.

Instead, it's about the consequences of a spell that caused the entire world to forget the existence of Peter Parker. Peter asked for this in response to his aunt's horrible death in the last movie, "No Way Home." In a defining act, he shoulders the burden of isolation to protect the loved ones he has left. "Brand New Day" comes as a more hopeful rebuttal, about rebuilding that community.

Through his isolation, Peter's powers begin to mutate into something closer to Sam Raimi's version of Spider-Man, the blockbuster early-2000s portrayal that now feels mythical, with his heightened Spidey sense and organically shooting webs. It's not so much fan service as a metaphor for adulthood.

Peter gains more arachnid-like powers, learns that strength can mean expressing pain instead of swallowing it, and he rebuilds romances and friendships. "Brand New Day" enraptures when it narrows Peter's world to him, the people he loves and his sense of duty and heroism. I would sigh in relief anytime Holland's real-life wife Zendaya appears as Mary Jane with Jacob Batalon as her roommate and Peter's former best friend Ned.

Peter struggles against this identity crisis just as a seemingly invisible new threat terrorizes New York, and he forms an alliance with the hilariously named

SEE 'SPIDER-MAN' ON 16

I Want Your Sex ★★★½

Gregg Araki's erotic farce has message for Gen Z

Art and sex collide in this refreshingly honest rom-com

BY KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service

The word on the street (and in the news, and the movies) is that younger men are increasingly interested in older women. This complex — and potentially liberating — dynamic proves fertile ground for pioneering indie auteur Gregg Araki with "I Want Your Sex," his first feature in 12 years. This silly-sexy slice of pop-noir art world satire serves as Araki's manifesto about the power and creative energy of the erotic, and it just might be the hottest, and most refreshingly honest, rom-com of the summer (replete with blooper reel).

Written by Araki and Karley Sciortino, "I Want Your Sex" tackles the subject of workplace sexual harassment in the same way most films in the post-Me Too canon do, by flipping genders. With a knowing wink at the "woke police," Araki and Sciortino dive headlong into the titillating possibilities that come with the territory of this setting and these players, without minimizing the risk or the real consequences, instead mining that for dramatic effect.

The young, naive assistant Elliot is played by unlikely ingenue Cooper Hoffman, perpetually bedheaded and deeply winning in this go-for-broke performance. His screen partner is Olivia Wilde, playing outré "neo-pop artist" Erika Tracy, and the lady is a vamp. As his boss, she spots her prey early, sinks her fangs into him and doesn't let go. But don't worry about Elliot, he's exactly where he wants to be. Their affair becomes a space of both exploitation and liberation, which he walks into with clear eyes and a full heart.

Araki is a filmmaker who truly knows how to utilize Wilde, with her otherworldly feline beauty and simmering mean girl energy. A dom is the perfect role for her, and here, she's funny, charming, intimidating and utterly impenetrable, literally. She promises from the outset to shake up this Gen Z boy's sex life, which is sorely lacking in his relationship with high-achieving, seemingly uninterested med student Minerva (Charli XCX, playing nerd). No wonder Elliot tumbles nose over tail for his formidable boss.

Despite its flirtations with danger, "I Want Your Sex" is not quite an erotic thriller. With a bright and candy-colored palette, it's more of a sex farce that knowingly plays with genre. The narrative structure is classic noir, with its nested flashbacks, mysterious dead body and unreliable narrator recounting a sordid tale to a pair of police officers (Margaret Cho and Johnny Knoxville). But the humor, heart and sizzling chemistry between the leads is all rom-com.

The film becomes a pulpit for Araki to preach a little. In all of her wild, wanton, and yes, problematic glory, Erika serves as the mouthpiece for Araki and Sciortino's message to Gen Z, which is to have some sex already. The kids could stand to be a little more kinky, a little more queer, to get out of their heads and into their bodies. "Your time is now, kids, get it while you can," Erika warns Elliot (though there doesn't seem to be any age that Erika wouldn't be getting it herself).

Back when he was a part of forging the New Queer Cinema movement in the late '80s and early '90s, Araki had his finger on America's sexual pulse, and he still does. His "Teenage Apocalypse" trilogy might have sexually scrambled the millennial brain, and with this latest film, Araki once again dares the younger generations to learn the language of sex, not just performing the words, but inhabiting the erotic, understanding it. They might just find a little relief, or a little clarity about themselves and others, even when it's awkward, strange or even dangerous.

"I Want Your Sex" is also a chance for Araki to pontificate about art. Erika's work might be exploitative, shocking, even bad. "What's the difference between this and pornography?" Elliot's roommate Apple (Chase Sui Wonders) asks. "Lighting and context," he replies. Through Erika, Araki dares us to reconsider art that toys with bad taste, and the daring candor to be found within. "Art connects us to the core emotions that make us human," Erika lectures Elliot. But in the economic extremity of this world, artists are worth more dead than they are alive.

Whether it's art, sex or the creative energy that can manifest from the synergy between the two, what Araki asserts in this fizzy, flirty freak-fest is that the reward — and the potential for personal growth — is always worth the risk, even, or especially, if it's messy, deviant or strange.

PHOTOS BY MAGNOLIA PICTURES

TOP: Cooper Hoffman plays Elliot, the young, naive and perpetually bedheaded assistant to outré "neo-pop artist" Erika Tracy, a perfectly cast Olivia Wilde. Their affair becomes a space of both exploitation and liberation. ABOVE: Hoffman and Chase Sui Wonders, who plays Elliot's roommate Apple.

R. At area theaters. Contains strong sexual content, graphic nudity and pervasive language. 90 minutes.

Ratings guide Masterpiece ★★★★ Very good ★★★☆ Okay ★★☆☆ Poor ★☆☆☆

Movies

New movies and shows to stream

BY THOMAS FLOYD

Ted Lasso

After three years off the air, the feel-good sitcom returns for a fourth season centered on the launch of a women's soccer team at AFC Richmond. Jason Sudeikis, Hannah Waddingham and Juno Temple headline the returning cast.

Where to watch: Wednesday on Apple TV

Sterling Point

Ella Rubin plays an overachieving New York City teen who inherits her grandfather's Canadian island and, upon traveling to the picturesque community, unearths family secrets. The series was created by "My Old Ass" filmmaker Megan Park.

Where to watch: Wednesday on Prime Video

The Shards

Ryan Murphy co-created this series based on Bret Easton Ellis's fictionalized memoir. Set in 1981 Los Angeles, the show follows 17-year-old Ellis (Igby Rigney) as the arrival of a new classmate (Homer Gere) coincides with the emergence of a serial killer.

Where to watch: Wednesday on Hulu

COLIN HUTTON/APPLE TV

Jason Sudeikis, center, reprises his role as the titular character in the fourth season of "Ted Lasso," premiering Wednesday on Apple TV.

PRIME

Ella Rubin, shown with Daniel Quinn-Toye, plays an overachieving New York City teen in "Sterling Point."

FX

Igby Rigney, left, and Homer Gere star in "The Shards," an FX series based on Bret Easton Ellis's fictionalized memoir.

'SPIDER-MAN' FROM 14

Department of Damage Control (led by "Severance" actor Tramell Tillman). Numerous members of Spidey's rogues' gallery cameo here, but rest assured this movie keeps its focus on its villain, Tillman's welcome debut in the Marvel universe and Spidey's crisis of self. I won't spoil the main antagonist, who brings a lot of baggage that is thankfully left out of the script. Knowing fans can appreciate the choice's implications, while everyone else gets a compelling, powerful new character to follow.

Director Destin Daniel Cretton's last Marvel movie, "Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings," featured some of the best action choreography in these films, and he brings that magic here. These are the best-looking fights across all Marvel films. The highlight is a breathtaking fight with The Hand, a group of ninja assassins who move like shifting architecture, climbing and linking with each other, collapsing and reconfiguring themselves into new formations like a school of deadly piranha.

New York City also feels real here, unlike the green-screen patches of it in past films. While "Brand New Day" doesn't feel quite as fresh or grounded as Raimi's masterful "Spider-Man 2," Cretton's Manhattan feels alive in ways it hasn't in years. It feels good again to root for a city that's rooting for its hero.

For all of its guest characters and ambitious premise, "Brand New Day" is a modest blockbuster, a "small potatoes" epic, as Black Widow describes when Peter asks for her assessment. That's the point.

The film's biggest weakness is inherent in its nature as a franchise product. There is so much setup only to rediscover the foundational principles of the character. At least it works, and this film feels self-contained despite that baggage. "Brand New Day" is a messy but largely successful attempt at remembering what makes Spider-Man special: that his greatest battle isn't about villains, but the balance between his humanity and his job as a superhuman. Isolation and punishment don't need to come with that responsibility.

PG-13. *At area theaters. Contains sequences of action/violence and some language.*

ALSO PLAYING

For showtimes and directories, see the Movie Directory.

★★★½ **DISCLOSURE DAY**
The new film about aliens and the truth showcases a commanding performance by Emily Blunt and action sequences at Steven Spielberg's most kinetic. (PG-13, 145 minutes.)

★★½☆ **HER PRIVATE HELL**
Nicolas Winding Refn's maximalist meditation on death, sex and daddy issues is a visual stunner — and a bit incoherent. (R, 109 minutes.)

★½☆☆ **MICHAEL**
The Michael Jackson biopic doesn't even nod to the unpleasant truth — it moonwalks right past it. (PG-13, 127 minutes.)

★★★☆ **MINIONS & MONSTERS**
The franchise's latest romp — both a love letter to Old Hollywood and a lightly spiky critique — is more high-minded than the usual fare. (PG, 90 minutes.)

★★☆☆ **MOANA**
A vanity project for Dwayne Johnson, Disney's latest live-action remake sails the same old seas. (PG, 115 minutes.)

★★½☆ **MOTOR CITY**
The revenge thriller's lack of dialogue can feel gimmicky, but the soundtrack keeps things humming along. (R, 103 minutes.)

★★★☆ **OBSESSION**
Rising filmmaker Curry Barker takes a simple, familiar premise and executes it with dread-filled flair. (R, 108 minutes.)

★★★★ **THE ODYSSEY**
Christopher Nolan, operating at the height of his powers, delivers a masterpiece of mythic proportions. (R, 172 minutes.)

★★½☆ **SUPERGIRL**
The Kryptonian character's story is told with indie sleaze, swagger and grit. (PG-13, 107 minutes.)

★★★☆ **TOY STORY 5**
This installment might not feel as weighty as some of the others, but the animation remains beautiful, the humor heartfelt. (PG, 102 minutes.)

★½☆☆ **YOUNG WASHINGTON**
Biopic of first president has all the thrills of a social studies textbook. (PG-13, 121 minutes.)

Common Sense Media What parents need to know

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13)

AGE 11+

Latest Spidey movie spins an emotional action adventure.

The latest Tom Holland-starring blockbuster is set four years after "Spider-Man: No Way Home," in which all memories of Peter Parker were wiped from civilization. Expect lots of comic-book-style action violence, with peril, threats, torture, crashes, fights, weapons, bloody wounds, explosions and mass destruction. One character invites another to take off his clothes and join her in a hot tub, and there's kissing and brief sex-related dialogue. Occasional language includes "s---," "a--hole," "goddamn," "Jesus Christ," "frickin'," "hell" and "God" (one person starts to say "motherf---er" but is interrupted). Adults drink casually at a party, and a character appears to have a dependency on energy drinks. The film emphasizes the importance of having a support network and asking for help when needed. (150 minutes)

Available in theaters.

SONY PICTURES

Expect lots of comic-book-style action violence in the latest installment of the Spider-Man franchise.

I Want Your Sex (R)

AGE 17+

"No" means "yes" in problematic, profane BDSM sex satire.

This mature sex comedy follows an artist named Erika (Olivia Wilde) who grooms young new hire Elliot (Cooper Hoffman) to be her submissive in a BDSM relationship. So, yes, there's sex — lots of it and of all kinds. Expect full male and nearly full female nudity and scenarios involving ball gags, handcuffs and other sex toys. Erika is a pop artist whose show features in-your-face art of genitalia and photographs of people in various sex acts. Elliot often tells Erika "no" and at times clearly doesn't consent ("We don't have a safe word!"), but she ignores his refusals and does what she wants anyway (including pouring alcohol into his mouth and pressuring him to smoke). Scenes involve blood and a corpse, and you can expect tons of strong, sexually blunt language, including "f---" and "c---." (90 minutes)

Available in theaters.

Avatar Aang: The Last Airbender (PG)

AGE 9+

Faithful expansion of classic series has violence and peril.

A direct continuation of the series "Avatar: The Last Airbender," this animated fantasy film is set years after the events of the show. The movie deals with mature themes, including power disparity and grief. There's also lots of fantasy fighting, mostly inspired by martial arts, in which characters "bend" elements such as fire and air. Non-benders use weapons such as blades, boomerangs and arrows. Characters get hurt, but there's no blood. Intense peril includes scenes with explosions, tornadoes, avalanches and cities on fire. There are mentions of war and genocide, including visuals of lifeless bodies. One character is consumed by grief and turns evil. Important characters appear momentarily dead, which may upset younger viewers (spoiler: They survive). Mild romance includes kissing and hand-holding. The movie reinforces the franchise's themes of friendship, community and integrity. (99 minutes)

Available on Paramount+.

Locker Diaries: Descendants (TV-G)

AGE 8+

Short-form series teases (and promotes) "Descendants" content.

This short-form series follows Red (Kylie Cantrall) and Chloe Charming (Malia Baker) after the events of "Descendants: Rise of Red" (and has a few spoilers from that film). Stories are told in a vertical format that's optimal for mobile viewing (think of it like being a fly on the wall, looking through the school lockers). There's no iffy language or violent content, but characters do get into trouble for things such as enchanting innocent people and borrowing items without asking. That said, it's all played for laughs. (10 episodes)

Available on Disney+.

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common sense Common Sense Media helps families make smart media choices. Go to commonsensemedia.org for age-based and educational ratings and reviews for movies, games, apps, TV shows, websites and books.

PARAMOUNT+

The animated fantasy film "Avatar Aang: The Last Airbender" is set years after the events of the series "Avatar: The Last Airbender." The movie has some violence and peril and deals with mature themes.

MAGNOLIA PICTURES

Olivia Wilde and Cooper Hoffman in "I Want Your Sex," a problematic and profane BDSM sex satire.

MOVIE DIRECTORY

(!) No Pass/No Discount Ticket

Friday, July 31 & Saturday, August 1, 2026
www.washingtonpost.com/movies

DISTRICT

AMC Georgetown 14
3111 K Street NW

Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 12:35
Evil Dead Burn (R) Laser Projection; CC: Sat. 11:40
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri. 10:00-12:00; Fri. 7:00; Fri. 12:00-3:00-3:30-6:30-8:15-10:30; Fri. 9:30-11:15-1:00-2:45-4:30-8:00-9:45-11:30; Sat. 10:00AM; Sat. 12:00; Sat. 9:30-10:30-1:00-2:05-4:30-8:00-9:00-11:15-11:30; Sat. 3:30-6:30-7:00-10:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 1:15
Her Private Hell (R) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 1:10
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 5:25
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:30-2:00-5:30-6:15-9:00; Fri. 1:30-5:00-8:30; Sat. 11:15-2:45-5:30-6:15-9:45; Sat. 1:30-5:00-8:30-12:00
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:05AM; Sat. 9:15AM
Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 3:20-9:15; Sat. 3:20-9:10
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 6:15-9:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:10-1:40; Sat. 11:10-1:40-6:45
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:55-11:20
Motor City (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:40
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:15-1:15-4:15-5:05-8:15; Sat. 9:15-3:15-5:05-7:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 12:30-4:00-7:30-11:00; Sat. 12:30-4:00-7:30
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 1:25
Her Private Hell (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:40-11:35; Sat. 10:55
Sheep In The Box (PG) Laser Projection: Fri. 4:00AM
Minions & Monsters 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 4:10-6:45; Sat. 4:10
Moana 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 2:25
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:15-2:05-6:00-10:00; Sat. 10:00-2:00-6:00-10:00
Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:30-6:30
Motor City (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:25; Sat. 10:30-9:25
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:25-1:05-3:45; Sat. 10:25-3:45
Evil Dead Burn (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:55
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 12:25; Sat. 4:00
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 5:25-9:50; Sat. 1:05-8:10-9:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 9:00AM; Sat. 9:00-11:00

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - DC Bryant Street
630 Rhode Island Avenue NE

Moana (PG) OC: Sat. 12:20
Toy Story 5 (PG) OC: Sat. 3:20; Fri. 3:20-7:15-11:15; Sat. 8:10-7:15-11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) BigShow: Fri. 6:00
The Invite (R) OC: Sat. 1:15; Fri. 10:10-1:15-4:15-6:15-10:10; Sat. 10:10-4:15-6:15-10:10
Moana (PG) Fri. 12:20
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 7:00
The Odyssey (R) OC: Sat. 10:25AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) BigShow: Fri. 10:30-2:15-9:45; Sat. 10:30-2:15-6:00-9:45
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 8:15-10:25-2:35-6:45-9:15; Sat. 8:15-2:35-6:45-9:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:00-8:15-9:00-11:00-11:30-12:00-12:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:30-7:30-8:00-10:15-10:45-11:00; Sat. 8:00-8:15-9:00-11:00-11:30-12:00-12:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-10:15-10:45-11:00

Angelika Pop-Up at Union Market
550 Penn St. NE - Unit E

The Odyssey (R) Sat. 6:00
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Sat. 1:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 10:30-1:35-4:00-8:15-10:00; Sat. 10:30-1:35-4:45-7:50-10:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 10:45-2:15-6:00-9:30; Sat. 10:45-2:15-9:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 10:00-1:00-7:00; Sat. 10:00-4:00-7:00

Avalon Theatre
5612 Connecticut Ave.

Reading Lolita in Tehran (NR) Subtitled: Fri.-Sat. 11:45-2:15-4:50-7:30
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 11:30-3:15-7:00; Sat. 3:15-7:00; Sat. 11:30AM

Landmark Atlantic Plumbing Cinema
807 V Street Northwest

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:50-4:00-7:10-10:10

Regal Gallery Place
701 Seventh Street NW

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 3:40
The Odyssey (R) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 2:40
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:00AM
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 9:10-10:10-12:50-3:35; Sat. 10:10-3:35
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:50-9:50-11:05-1:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) 4DX: Sat. 9:00AM
The Invite (R) Fri. 6:10-8:50; Sat. 6:10-8:50-10:55
Obsession (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:55
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) 4DX: Fri. 9:00-12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00-12:00; Sat. 12:00-3:00-6:00-9:00-12:00
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri.-Sat. 9:25-12:45-4:10-7:30
The Odyssey 70mm (R) Fri. 11:50-3:50-7:45-11:30; Sat. 11:50-3:50-7:50-11:30
Toy Story 5 (PG) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 12:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 9:20-9:40-10:20-10:40-12:20-12:40-1:00-1:20-1:40-2:00-2:20-3:40-4:00-4:20-4:40-5:00-5:20-7:00-7:20-7:40-8:00-8:20-8:40-10:20-10:40; Sat. 8:30-9:20-9:40-10:20-10:40-12:20-12:40-1:00-1:20-1:40-2:00-4:00-4:20-4:40-5:00-5:20-7:00-7:20-7:40-8:00-8:20-8:40-10:20-10:40; Fri. 11:00-11:20-11:40-11:50-12:30; Sat. 11:00-11:20-11:40-11:50
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 8:55-9:55-10:50-12:35-1:30-2:40-3:30-4:30-5:30-6:30-7:10-8:10-9:10-10:30-10:50-11:25; Sat. 8:55-9:55-10:50-12:35-1:30-3:30-4:30-5:30-6:30-7:10-8:10-9:10-10:30-10:50-11:25
The Invite (R) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 10:55

Smithsonian - Lockheed Martin IMAX Theater
601 Independence Avenue SW

Hubble (G) Fri.-Sat. 4:00
Space: The New Frontier Fri.-Sat. 10:30-5:00
To Fly! Fri.-Sat. 11:15AM
Apollo 11: First Steps Edition Fri.-Sat. 1:00
Blue Angels: The IMAX Experience (G) Fri.-Sat. 2:00
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Fri.-Sat. 6:30-9:45
Wingsuit Flyers: The Science of Flight Fri.-Sat. 12:00-3:00

MARYLAND

AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Road

Rebel Without a Cause (PG-13) Fri. 11:45AM; Sat. 12:30
All About Eve Fri. 2:00; Sat. 11:30AM
Blazing Saddles (R) Fri. 4:45
Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (PG) Fri. 9:00; Sat. 6:45
Eddie Murphy: Raw (R) Fri. 7:00; Sat. 9:15
The Human Condition III: A Soldier's Prayer (Ningen no joken III) Sat. 3:00
Animated Film Program Sat. 11:00AM
I Want Your Sex (R) Fri. 11:50-1:50-6:30; Sat. 2:20-6:50
Michael Mann's Manhunter: The Final Cut Fri. 3:50-8:30; Sat. 4:20-8:50

AMC Academy 8
6198 Greenbelt Road

Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 2:05-7:40-10:35
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:30AM; Sat. 10:30-5:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 1:20-7:15; Sat. 7:15
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:15-12:15-2:00-4:15-6:00-8:15-9:40; Sat. 10:15-12:15-2:00-6:00-8:15-9:40
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:00-10:25-10:50-1:45-2:30-3:30-4:30-5:30-6:20-9:00-9:45-10:15-10:40
Moana 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:05AM
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 4:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 12:00-1:00-7:00-8:00
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; OC: Fri. 5:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 1:15
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 4:15

AMC Annapolis Mall 11
1020 Annapolis Mall Road

Moana (PG) CC: Fri. 9:50-12:50-4:00-8:40; Sat. 12:50-4:00-10:10
Toy Story 5 (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:20-12:10-3:10-6:00
Evil Dead Burn (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:15AM
Minions & Monsters (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:40-2:10-4:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri.-Sat. 12:00-3:30-7:00-10:30
The Odyssey (R) CC: Fri. 8:40-12:20-4:20-7:20-11:40; Sat. 8:40-12:20-4:20-7:20-8:45-11:15
The Invite (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:45AM
Moana 3D (PG) Fri. 10:40; Sat. 7:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri. 9:30-1:00-4:30-7:10-8:00-11:30; Sat. 9:30-1:00-4:30-8:00-11:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) CC: Fri.-Sat. 12:30-4:00
The Odyssey 70mm (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:20-2:20-6:20-10:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:30AM; Fri. 9:00-10:30-11:00-11:30-2:00-2:30-3:00-5:30-6:00-6:30-7:30-8:20-9:00-9:30-10:00-11:00-11:15-11:45-12:25; Sat. 8:15-9:00-9:15-10:30-11:00-11:30-2:00-2:30-3:00-5:30-6:00-6:30-7:30-8:20-9:00-9:30-10:00-11:00-11:45-12:25; Fri. 8:15AM

AMC Center Park 8
4001 Powder Mill Road

Moana (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:30-2:00-5:00
Toy Story 5 (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:45-1:30
Minions & Monsters (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:30-11:45
The Odyssey (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:00-2:15-6:00-8:15-10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri. 7:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:00-2:30-4:15-5:15-7:45-8:45-11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri. 9:30-10:15-12:00-12:30-1:00-1:45-3:30-4:00-4:30-6:15-7:30-8:00-9:45-10:30-11:00-11:30; Sat. 9:30-10:15-12:00-12:30-1:00-1:45-3:30-4:00-4:30-6:15-7:00-7:30-8:00-9:45-10:30-11:00-11:30

AMC Columbia 14
10300 Little Patuxent Pkwy.

Minions & Monsters (PG) CC: Fri. 10:45-1:15-3:45-6:30-9:15; Sat. 9:00-10:00-1:15-3:45-6:30-9:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:15-10:15-10:45-11:15-11:45-12:45-1:45-2:15-2:45-3:15-4:15-5:15-5:45-6:15-6:45-7:45-8:45-9:15-9:45-10:15-11:15; Fri. 4:45; Sat. 1:15
Her Private Hell (R) OC: Sat. 6:40
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) CC: Fri.-Sat. 1:00-3:30
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:00-10:00; Sat. 10:00-6:00-10:00
Moana (PG) CC: Fri. 8:45-11:45-6:00; Sat. 8:45-11:45-2:45-6:00
Toy Story 5 (PG) CC: Fri. 9:30-12:15-3:30-6:15-9:00; Sat. 9:15-10:15-12:45-6:15-9:30
Motor City (R) CC: Sat. 3:40
The Odyssey (R) CC: Fri. 9:00-11:30-4:30-7:00-8:30-11:00; Sat. 9:15-11:30-4:30-7:00-8:30-9:15-11:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 12:00-3:30-7:00-10:30; Sat. 12:00-3:30-7:00
The Invite (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:00
Her Private Hell (R) CC: Fri. 9:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) CC: Fri. 9:45-1:15-8:15; Sat. 9:45-4:45-8:15
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 2:00-6:00; Sat. 2:00
Moana (PG) OC: Fri. 2:45
Toy Story 5 (PG) OC: Sat. 3:30
Motor City (R) OC: Fri. 6:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 8:30AM; Sat. 8:30-10:30

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center 12
800 Shoppers Way

Moana (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:00-5:00-7:00-10:10
Michael (PG-13) CC: Fri. 10:50AM; Sat. 10:05AM
Toy Story 5 (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 2:10-8:10-9:15
Minions & Monsters (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:40AM
The Odyssey (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 12:00-1:00-4:00-5:00-8:00-9:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri. 10:15-11:45-12:45-1:15-1:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-4:45-5:15-5:45-6:45-7:15-7:45-8:15-8:45-10:15-10:45; Sat. 10:15-11:45-12:15-12:45-1:15-1:45-3:15-4:15-4:45-5:15-5:45-6:45-7:15-7:45-8:15-8:45-10:15-10:45
Haunted Heist (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:30AM
Toy Story 5 3D (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:30AM
Minions & Monsters 3D (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 4:30
Moana 3D (PG) CC: Fri.-Sat. 1:20
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:00-2:00-6:00-10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:15-2:45-6:15-9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri. 12:15; Sat. 3:45

AMC Montgomery 16
7101 Democracy Boulevard

Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 8:15-10:00-1:30-3:45-6:30-9:30; Sat. 9:45-12:00-3:00-6:15-9:15
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:00-10:45-1:00-4:30-7:10-9:50; Sat. 9:10-11:30-2:15-4:15-7:40-10:20
Disclosure Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 8:30-2:00; Sat. 8:30AM
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 5:30-8:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:45-12:15-2:45-5:05-7:40-10:20; Sat. 9:30-12:15-2:45-5:15-7:50-10:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:15-10:45-1:15-2:45-3:45-5:15-6:45-7:50-9:15-10:10; Sat. 9:20-10:45-1:15-2:45-4:00-5:15-6:45-9:15-10:30
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:15AM; Sat. 9:15AM
Her Private Hell (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:00AM; Sat. 9:30AM
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 8:45-12:00-3:15-7:00-10:30; Sat. 10:30-12:45-2:45-5:00-8:15-10:45
WWE SummerSlam 2026 Laser Projection: Sat. 6:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:15-11:30-3:00-6:30-10:00
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; OC: Fri. 11:45AM; Sat. 12:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:00-9:30-10:00-10:30-11:00-11:45-12:00-12:30-1:00-1:30-2:00-2:30-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:00-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00-9:30; Sat. 9:00-9:30-10:00-10:30-11:00-12:00-12:30-1:00-1:30-2:00-2:30-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:00-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00-9:30-10:15; Fri. 10:15-10:30-10:45-11:00; Sat. 10:30-10:45; Fri. 6:45; Sat. 7:15; Fri. 3:15; Sat. 1:45

AMC Rio Cinemas 18
9811 Washingtonian Ctr.

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 7:45; Fri. 8:45-9:15-9:45-10:00-10:45-11:00-12:30-12:45-1:30-2:15-2:30-4:00-4:15-5:00-5:45-6:00-6:15-7:30-8:30-9:15-9:30-10:00-11:00-11:15; Fri.-Sat. 3:00; Sat. 2:15; Sat. 8:45-9:00-9:15-9:45-10:00-10:45-11:00-12:30-12:45-1:30-2:30-4:00-4:15-5:00-5:45-6:00-6:15-7:30-7:45-8:30-9:15-9:30-10:00-11:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:30-11:30-1:00-3:45-4:30-6:30-7:15-8:00-10:45-11:30; Fri. 8:30AM; Sat. 8:00-9:30-11:30-1:00-3:45-4:30-6:30-7:15-8:00-10:45-11:30; Sat. 8:30-10:30
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:00AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 12:00AM; Sat. 11:15-12:00
Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:30-12:30-3:30-9:45; Sat. 12:15-3:15-8:00
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 8:45-1:00-2:00-4:45-10:15; Sat. 8:15-10:15-4:45-10:15
Disclosure Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:00AM
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:00-1:15-3:45-6:30; Sat. 8:00-8:45-11:30-6:30-9:45
Motor City (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 4:00; Sat. 3:45
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 5:30-8:00; Sat. 5:30-11:00
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 8:30-9:15-11:15-12:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-5:15-7:15-8:15-9:15-11:15; Sat. 8:15-9:15-11:15-12:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-5:15-7:15-8:15-9:15-11:15
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 7:45-12:00-7:00
Minions & Monsters 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:30-9:45; Sat. 1:15-3:30
Her Private Hell (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:30; Sat. 1:00
Moana 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 6:45; Sat. 8:30-10:30
Obsession (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:45
Toy Story 5 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:15-7:30; Sat. 2:00-7:30
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 2:00-6:00-10:00; Sat. 10:00-2:00-6:00-10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) CC: Fri. 3:30-10:30; Sat. 3:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:30-2:00
WWE SummerSlam 2026 Laser Projection: Sat. 6:00

AMC St. Charles Town Ctr 9
11115 Mall Circle

Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:15-1:15-4:15-6:05
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:40-12:20-3:10-7:15-9:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:30AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 7:45-8:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:15-12:40-3:15-5:30-7:10-9:20
Moana 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:00-3:30-4:40-6:00-8:10-9:30-10:30; Sat. 11:00-3:30-4:40-6:00-7:00-8:10-9:30-10:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:15AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:15-10:00-10:30-12:00-12:45-2:00-4:15-5:00-7:00-11:00; Sat. 9:15-10:00-10:30-12:00-12:45-1:30-2:00-4:15-5:00-7:45-8:30-11:00; Fri.-Sat. 2:30

Cinemark Egyptian 24 and XD
7000 Arundel Mills Circle

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 1:30-1:40-3:00-3:05-3:15-3:25-3:50-4:10-4:20-4:35-4:45-4:50-5:05-6:15-6:30-6:40-6:50-7:35-7:45-7:50-8:00-8:10-8:15-8:30; Fri.-Sat. 11:10-2:35-6:00-9:25; Fri.-Sat. 8:45-12:10-7:00-10:25; Sat. 3:00-3:05-3:15-3:20-4:10-4:20-4:35-4:45-4:50-5:05-6:15-6:30-6:40-7:15-7:35-7:45-7:50-8:00-8:10-8:15-8:20-8:30-9:45-9:55
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 8:05-10:40-11:35-11:55-2:55-3:25-3:45-7:15-7:40-8:25-9:40-11:05-11:30; Sat. 8:05-8:15-11:35-11:55-3:25-3:45-7:15-7:40-9:20-9:40-11:05-11:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri. 2:50-7:15; Fri.-Sat. 3:35; Sat. 8:30-3:50-4:55-6:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:00-8:15-8:25-8:30-8:35-8:50-9:00-9:30-9:40-9:45-10:00-10:05-10:15-11:25-11:35-11:40-11:50-12:00-12:25-12:30-12:55-1:10-1:20-1:25; Fri. 9:20-9:35-9:45-9:55-10:05-10:10-10:15-10:40-11:00-11:10-11:25-11:35-11:40-11:55-12:00; Sat. 8:05-8:15-8:25-8:30-9:00-9:10-9:30-9:40-9:45-10:00-10:05-10:15-11:35-11:40-11:50-11:55-12:25-12:45-12:55-1:10-1:20-1:25-1:30-1:40; Sat. 10:05-10:10-10:40-11:10-11:25-11:35-11:40-11:45-11:50-11:55-12:05
Moana (PG) Fri. 8:20-12:45-3:40-6:25; Sat. 8:20-12:35-3:55-6:25
Supergirl (PG-13) Fri. 9:20; Sat. 9:15
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 8:00-8:55-1:10-3:40-6:55; Sat. 8:10-10:30-1:10-3:40-6:55
Evil Dead Burn (R) Fri.-Sat. 4:55-11:15
Motor City (R) Sat. 11:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 8:10-12:25-2:30-6:45; Sat. 8:00-11:20-1:45-4:15-6:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) DBOX: Fri.-Sat. 9:15-7:30
Obsession (R) Sat. 7:20-10:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) DBOX: Fri.-Sat. 12:40-4:05-10:55
The Odyssey 70mm (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:50-2:40-6:30-10:20
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 8:00-11:30-3:10; Sat. 8:00-9:20-12:40-4:00

Cinépolis Gaithersburg
629 Center Point Way

Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 11:00-2:10
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 11:15-2:45-7:45; Sat. 11:00-2:45-7:45
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 12:00-5:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 6:00-6:40-7:00-8:00-9:30; Sat. 6:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:30-2:00-3:45-6:10-8:00-9:00-10:15-10:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 11:00-11:30-12:00-12:30-1:00-2:30-3:00-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:30-7:30-10:20-10:30-11:00-11:30-11:55; Sat. 9:00-9:30-11:00-11:30-12:00-12:30-1:00-2:30-3:00-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:30-6:40-7:00-7:30-8:00-9:30-10:20-10:30-11:00-11:30-11:55

Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 4:40-8:00; Sat. 4:50-8:15
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 4:10-7:40; Sat. 4:20-7:55

IPIC Pike & Rose
11830 Grand Park Ave.

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 10:45-12:00-2:30-3:45-6:00-6:30-9:30-10:15; Sat. 11:00-12:00-2:30-3:45-6:00-6:30-9:30-10:15

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema
7235 Woodmont Avenue

A Minecraft Movie (PG) Sat. 11:00AM
I Want Your Sex (R) Fri. 11:15-10:00; Sat. 10:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 12:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 11:00-2:30-6:00-9:30
The Invite (R) Fri. 5:45; Sat. 3:00-5:45
I Want Your Sex (R) Sat. 11:15AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 1:00-1:45-3:30-4:30-5:15-7:00-8:00-8:45; Sat. 12:00-1:00-1:55-3:30-4:30-5:15-7:00-8:00-8:45
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:30-12:30-2:00-3:45-4:45-6:15-7:30-8:30-9:00
The Invite (R) Fri. 3:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 12:00

Landmark at Annapolis Harbour Center
2474 Solomons Island Rd. Unit H-1

A Minecraft Movie (PG) Sat. 11:00AM
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 12:50-3:50; Sat. 11:30-1:45-3:55
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 12:00-12:30-1:15-2:00-2:30-3:00-3:30-4:30-5:15-5:45-6:15-7:00-7:45-8:30-9:00-9:30; Sat. 11:15-12:00-1:15-2:00-2:30-3:00-3:30-4:30-5:15-5:45-6:15-7:00-7:45-8:30-9:00-9:30
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:15-12:45-1:30-3:45-4:15-5:00-6:00-7:15-8:00-9:10

Phoenix Theatres Marlow 6
3899 Branch Avenue

Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:30-12:45-3:00-5:30-8:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:00-12:00-1:00-3:00-4:05-6:00-7:15-9:00-10:30
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:00-1:35-5:30-9:05-10:05
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 11:00-2:00-5:00-8:00

Regal Cinemas Majestic Stadium 20 & IMAX
900 Ellsworth Drive

Moana (PG) Fri. 8:15-11:05-1:55; Sat. 7:50-9:35-12:25-3:15
I Want Your Sex (R) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 2:35
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 12:20
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 5:00
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:10-12:05-2:40-5:15-7:55-10:30-11:35
Evil Dead Burn (R) Fri. 11:45; Sat. 11:30
I Want Your Sex (R) Fri. 9:50-12:15-2:35-4:55-7:10-9:45-12:10; Sat. 9:50-12:15-4:55-7:10-9:45-12:10
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 7:50-1:10-3:25-5:45-8:05-10:35; Sat. 9:10-11:30-1:55-4:15-6:30-8:50-11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 7:40-8:25-8:40-9:00-9:20-9:40-10:00-10:20-10:40-11:00-11:40-12:00-12:40-1:00-1:20-2:00-2:30-3:10-3:30-3:50-4:10-4:30-4:50-5:10; Sat. 7:40-8:20-8:40-9:00-9:20-9:40-10:00-10:20-10:40-11:00-11:40-12:00-12:20-12:40-1:00-1:20-2:00-2:30-3:10-3:30-3:50-4:10-4:30-4:50; Fri. 5:30-6:00-6:40-7:00-7:20-7:40-8:00-8:20-8:40-9:00-9:20-9:40-10:00-10:20-10:40-11:00-11:20-11:40; Sat. 5:10-5:30-6:00-6:40-7:00-7:20-7:40-8:00-8:20-8:40-9:00-9:20-9:40-10:00-10:20-10:40-11:00-11:20-11:40
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 8:20-9:30-10:10-12:10-1:30-2:05-4:00-5:20-5:50-7:50-9:10-9:35; Sat. 8:15-9:30-10:10-12:10-1:30-2:05-4:00-5:20-5:50-7:50-9:10-9:35
Brunello: The Gracious Visionary (PG-13) Subtitled: Fri. 9:55; Sat. 6:10-9:05-11:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 8:00-11:20-1:40-2:50-6:20-9:40-12:00
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 8:50-10:15-1:35-8:25; Sat. 8:50-10:35-1:50-5:00-8:10
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:05-11:45-3:35-7:30-11:10

Regal Hyattsville Royale
6505 America Boulevard

Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:10-9:40-12:40-3:30-6:20-7:20-9:15-10:10-12:05
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:05-9:55-12:30-1:30-3:00-5:40
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:15-11:40-2:10-4:30-6:50-9:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 9:00-9:30-10:00-11:20-11:50-12:20-12:50-1:20-2:40-3:10-4:10-4:40-5:00-6:00-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:20-8:40-9:20-9:50-10:20-10:50; Sat. 9:00-9:30-10:00-11:20-11:50-12:20-12:50-1:20-2:40-3:10-4:40-5:00-6:00-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:40-9:20-9:50-10:20-10:50; Fri. 11:20-12:00; Sat. 11:20-12:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 9:20-9:50-10:30-11:30-1:10-2:20-3:20-5:10-6:10-7:10-9:00-10:00-11:00-11:30; Sat. 9:20-9:50-10:30-1:10-2:20-3:20-5:10-6:10-7:10-9:00-10:00-11:00-11:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:40-2:00-5:20
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri.-Sat. 4:00-8:10-11:25
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dubbed; Spanish Language: Fri. 10:20-1:40-11:40; Sat. 10:20-5:00-8:20-11:40
The Odyssey (R) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 11:30AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 3:40

Regal Laurel Towne Centre
14716 Baltimore Avenue

Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 8:05-12:20-2:50-10:40; Sat. 8:00-8:35-12:20-10:40
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 8:00-11:00-8:00; Sat. 8:05-11:00-1:50-8:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) RPX: Fri. 8:

MOVIE DIRECTORY

(!) No Pass/No Discount Ticket

Friday, July 31 & Saturday, August 1, 2026
www.washingtonpost.com/movies

Regal Rockville Center
199 East Montgomery Ave.

The Odyssey (R) Fri. 9:00-10:00-12:00-12:45-1:55-2:45-3:45-5:45-6:45-8:15-8:45-9:20-9:40-10:45; Sat. 9:00-10:00-10:45-11:45-12:45-1:55-2:45-3:45-5:45-6:45-8:10-8:45-9:20-9:45-10:45
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 9:15-10:30-1:10-3:40-5:30; Sat. 8:30-9:10-12:50-3:40-5:10
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:00-11:20-1:40-4:00-6:20
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:45-10:15-11:00-11:30-12:15-1:45-2:30-3:00-3:30-4:45-5:15-5:40-6:00-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:15-10:00-10:30-11:00
Obsession (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri. 9:30-10:40-1:00-2:15-4:15-7:45-9:45-11:15; Sat. 9:45-10:40-1:00-2:15-4:15-7:40-9:40-11:15
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 8:50AM; Sat. 8:40-6:15
Moana (PG) Fri. 8:45-11:45-2:40; Sat. 8:45-11:40-2:20
The Odyssey (R) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 10:45AM
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 6:15

Regal Waugh Chapel
1419 South Main Chapel Way

The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:45-9:20-11:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-5:15-7:15-8:15-9:15-11:10
Moana (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:15-1:20
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:15-8:50-11:40-2:20-5:10-7:50
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:00-8:25-10:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri. 8:00-9:10-10:00-10:30-11:30-12:00-12:30-1:00-1:30-2:00-3:00-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00-9:50-10:30; Sat. 8:00-8:30-9:10-10:00-10:30-11:30-12:00-12:30-1:00-1:30-2:00-3:00-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00-9:50; Fri. 11:00-11:30; Sat. 10:30-11:00-11:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 11:00-2:30-6:00-9:20
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection: Fri. 10:40
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:15-2:15-6:15-10:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; Subtitled; OC: Fri. 8:30AM
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; Subtitled; OC: Sat. 10:40

Regal Westview
5243 Buckeystown Pike

Moana (PG) Laser Projection; VIP: Fri.-Sat. 8:15AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; Subtitled; OC: Fri. 8:45AM; Fri.-Sat. 8:30-10:30-11:45-1:45-3:00-5:00-6:15-8:15-9:30-11:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; VIP: Fri.-Sat. 8:55-11:00-12:40-2:40-4:20-6:25-8:10-10:15

Moana (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 11:20-2:05-4:50-7:40-10:35
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:10-8:40-10:55
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:35-10:10-12:35-3:05-5:30-7:50-10:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) 4DX; Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 10:00AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) 4DX; Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 1:15-4:30-7:45-11:00
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:00-11:10-2:35-5:55-9:15
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:00-11:40-3:20-7:00-10:45
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; VIP: Fri.-Sat. 8:05AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri. 9:00-9:30-10:50-12:00-12:15-12:45-2:10-2:30-3:15-3:30-4:00-5:25-5:45-6:30-6:45-7:15-8:40-9:00-9:45-10:00-10:30; Sat. 8:45-9:00-9:30-10:50-12:00-12:15-12:45-2:10-2:30-3:15-3:30-4:00-5:25-5:45-6:30-6:45-7:15-8:40-9:00-9:45-10:00-10:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 10:40-1:30-2:20-5:15-6:00-9:05-9:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:00-11:15

Xscape Theatres Brandywine 14
7710 Matapeake Business Dr.

Moana (PG) Fri. 10:00-11:20-12:50-2:10-4:20-5:00-7:10-7:50-9:50; Sat. 10:00-12:50-4:20-7:10-7:50-9:50
Supergirl (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:45-1:15-3:45
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:40-1:10-3:30-6:40-9:00
Evil Dead Burn (R) Fri.-Sat. 7:05-9:35
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:50-1:30-3:40-6:00-8:10
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:20-11:00-2:00-2:40-5:40-6:30-9:10-10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:10-10:30-11:10-11:50-12:40-1:00-1:20-1:40-2:20-3:00-3:50-4:10-4:30-4:50-5:30-6:10-7:00-7:20-7:40-8:00-8:40-9:20-10:10-10:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:15-3:25-6:35-9:45

VIRGINIA

AMC Courthouse Plaza 8
2150 Clarendon Boulevard

Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:00-11:40-2:20-5:00-7:45-10:30; Sat. 11:00-1:45-4:30-7:15-10:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 2:00-7:00-9:30; Sat. 9:30-2:30-7:45-10:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 6:00-9:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:20-12:00-2:10-3:50-6:00-7:40-9:50; Sat. 10:30-12:30-2:30-4:30-6:30-8:30-10:30
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:15AM; Sat. 9:45AM
Obsession (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:05; Sat. 9:15

Minions & Monsters 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:30-4:30; Sat. 12:00-5:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:00-4:00-7:30-8:15
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 11:30-2:45; Sat. 10:40AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri. 9:00-10:00-12:30-1:20-2:30-4:45-6:45-11:00; Sat. 9:00-10:00-12:30-1:20-2:30-4:45-6:00-9:30-11:00
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; OC: Sat. 2:00

AMC Hoffman Center 22
206 Hoffman Street

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:30-12:00-3:30-7:00-10:30; Fri.-Sat. 8:00-11:30-6:30-10:00; Fri.-Sat. 8:45; Fri.-Sat. 8:15-8:45-9:15-9:30-10:15-11:45-12:15-12:45-1:00-1:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-4:30-5:15-7:15-7:45-8:00-10:15-10:45-11:30; Fri.-Sat. 6:45; Fri. 9:00AM; Sat. 9:00-11:00
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 8:30-8:45-11:15-1:00-3:15-5:00-7:15-9:00-11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:45-2:15-5:45-9:15
The Odyssey 70mm (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:30-4:30-8:30
WWE SummerSlam 2026 Laser Projection: Sat. 6:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 3:00
Rosebush Pruning Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 5:10-7:40
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 4:30-7:00-9:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 12:30-4:00-7:30-11:00; Sat. 12:30-4:00-7:30
The Odyssey (R) CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:30-2:30-6:30-10:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:45-11:15-1:15-2:45-4:45-6:15-8:15-9:45

AMC Potomac Mills 18
2700 Potomac Mills Cir.

Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:50-12:50-3:50-6:50-9:50
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 11:20-2:05-4:50-7:35-10:20
Evil Dead Burn (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:35-1:30-5:30-8:20-11:10; Sat. 10:35-1:30-10:30
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:55-4:00-6:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 11:15-2:45; Fri. 9:25-10:30-10:45-11:40-2:00-2:15-4:25-5:30-5:45-6:40-7:55-9:05-9:15-11:25; Fri. 12:55; Fri.-Sat. 9:50-12:05-1:20-3:35-4:50-7:05-8:20-10:35; Sat. 4:25; Sat. 11:15-2:45-9:45; Sat. 9:25-10:30-10:45-11:40-12:55-2:00-2:15-5:30-5:45-6:40-7:55-9:05-9:15-11:25
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:30-11:00-1:25-2:55-5:20-6:50-9:20-10:45
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:00-2:00-6:00-10:00

I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:55-12:30-3:00-4:20-7:00-9:30; Sat. 10:25-1:00-3:30-4:20-7:00-9:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 6:15-9:45; Sat. 6:15
The Invite (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:00
Her Private Hell (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:35-12:25
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:15-1:45-3:10-5:15-8:45-10:10
The Odyssey 70mm (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:30-4:30-8:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 3:20-6:45-10:15
WWE SummerSlam 2026 Laser Projection: Sat. 6:00

AMC Shirlington 7
2772 South Randolph St.

Moana (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 10:30-1:30-4:30-6:30-9:40; Sat. 10:30-1:30-4:30-6:45-9:45
Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:30-5:45-8:30; Sat. 9:40-3:45-6:30-9:15
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 9:30-2:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 6:00-7:00-8:00-9:30
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:45-10:30-1:45-5:00-7:30-9:00; Sat. 9:30-10:30-5:00-7:30-9:00
Toy Story 5 3D (PG) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 12:15; Sat. 12:25
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 2:30-3:00; Sat. 2:30-3:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection; CC: Fri. 9:30-11:00-12:00-1:00-3:30-4:30-10:30; Sat. 9:30-11:00-12:00-3:30-4:30-6:00-7:00-8:00-9:30-10:30; Sat. 1:00

AMC Tysons Corner 16
7850e Tysons Corner Ctr.

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 4:00-7:30-11:00; Sat. 4:00-7:30
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Laser Projection; CC: Fri.-Sat. 10:00-2:00-6:00-10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Dolby Cinema; CC: Fri. 9:00-12:30; Sat. 9:00-12:30-11:00

AMC Worldgate 9
13025 Worldgate Drive

Toy Story 5 (PG) CC: Fri. 11:15-2:00-4:45-8:45; Sat. 11:15-2:00-4:45-8:45-10:15
Minions & Monsters (PG) CC: Fri. 10:45-1:15-4:00-6:30; Sat. 10:45-1:20-4:00-6:30
The Odyssey (R) CC: Fri. 11:45-2:15-3:45-4:40-6:10-7:30-9:15; Sat. 11:45-1:15-2:15-3:45-6:15-7:30-9:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) CC: Fri.-Sat. 3:30-6:00-9:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) CC: Fri. 10:50-1:00; Sat. 10:50-5:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) CC: Fri. 10:30-11:00-12:00-1:30-2:00-2:30-5:00-5:30-7:00-7:45-8:30-9:00-10:00-10:30; Sat. 10:30-12:00-1:30-2:00-2:30-5:00-5:30-7:00-7:45-8:30-9:00-10:30; Sat. 11:00AM

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema - One Loudoun
20575 Easthampton Plaza

Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:15AM
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:10AM
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:15-1:00-4:30-7:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 6:00; Fri. 10:30-2:15-9:45; Sat. 10:30-2:15-6:00-9:45
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:15-12:15-2:30-4:00-6:45-8:15-10:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:00-8:30-9:00-11:00-11:30-12:00-12:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-10:45-10:55-11:05; Sat. 8:00-9:00-11:00-11:30-12:30-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-10:45-10:55-11:05

Angelika Film Center Mosaic
2911 District Ave

I Want Your Sex (R) Fri. 10:10-1:40-4:00-6:10-8:20-10:45; Sat. 10:10-11:40-1:50-4:00-6:10-8:20-10:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Sat. 6:35
The Odyssey 35mm (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:30-2:15-6:00-9:35
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Sat. 10:00-11:00-11:30-12:30-1:00-2:00-2:30-3:35-4:00-5:00-5:30-7:00-8:00-8:30-9:30-10:00-11:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:00-3:40-7:15-10:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri.-Sat. 12:25-3:30-6:30-9:40
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 10:00-10:35-11:00-11:30-12:30-1:00-2:00-2:30-3:35-4:00-5:00-5:30-6:35-7:00-8:00-8:30-9:30-10:00-11:00

Cinema Arts Theatre
9650 Unit 14 Main St.

Motor City (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:55-12:05-2:15-9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:00-12:15-1:00-3:00-4:00-6:00-7:00-9:00-9:45
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:30-3:45-7:10-10:10
Reading Lolita in Tehran (NR) Fri.-Sat. 9:55-12:20-5:05-7:40
Young Washington (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 9:40-12:00-2:30-9:35
Horsegirls (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 9:50-2:40-5:00-7:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri.-Sat. 9:40-4:25-7:15-9:55

Cinemark Centreville
6201 Multiplex Drive

Moana (PG) Fri. 8:35-1:00-6:50-9:45; Sat. 8:35-1:00-3:55-6:50-9:45
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:50-11:30-2:10-4:00-7:20-10:00
Evil Dead Burn (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:40
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:30-9:25-11:25-1:55-4:50-6:40
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:45-9:00-9:15-9:30-9:45-10:15-11:55-12:10-12:25-12:55-1:10-1:40-3:35-3:50-4:05-4:20-4:35-7:00-7:15-7:30-7:45-8:15-8:30-10:40; Sat. 8:45-9:00-9:15-9:30-9:45-10:15-11:55-12:10-12:25-12:40-12:55-1:10-3:35-3:50-4:20-4:35-5:05-7:00-7:15-7:30-7:45-8:15-8:30-10:40; Fri. 10:55-11:10-11:25-12:00; Sat. 10:55-11:10-11:25-12:00

The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:10-10:50-12:05-2:40-3:20-4:25-6:30-7:10-9:10-10:20-11:00
Moana 3D (PG) Fri. 3:55
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri. 12:40-5:05-8:00-10:25; Sat. 1:40-4:05-8:00-10:25
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri.-Sat. 8:40AM

Cinemark Fairfax Corner and XD
11900 Palace Way

Moana (PG) Fri. 9:10-12:05-3:00-5:55-8:50-11:45; Sat. 9:00-11:55-2:50-8:40-11:35
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 8:45-11:25-2:05-4:45-7:25-10:05; Sat. 8:30-11:10-1:50-7:10-9:50
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 9:00-12:55-3:25-5:55; Sat. 9:15-11:45-2:15-7:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) DBOX: Fri.-Sat. 10:05-1:30-4:55-8:20-11:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) DBOX; XD: Fri. 3:55; Sat. 3:45
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 8:55-1:15; Sat. 8:45-12:05
Toy Story 5 (PG) OC: Sat. 4:30
Minions & Monsters (PG) OC: Sat. 4:45
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 8:35-9:20-11:30-12:25-1:10-3:20-4:15-5:00-7:10-8:05-8:50-11:00; Sat. 9:20-10:15-1:10-2:05-5:00-5:55-8:50-9:45
Moana (PG) OC: Sat. 5:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) DBOX; XD: Fri. 9:05-9:50-12:30-1:15-4:40-7:20-8:05-10:45-11:30; Sat. 8:55-9:45-12:20-1:10-4:35-7:10-8:00-10:35-11:25
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri. 9:15-1:00-3:40-7:05-8:25-11:15; Sat. 9:55-12:55-4:45-8:10-9:45-11:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 9:25-9:35-12:15-12:40-12:50-4:05-4:15-4:25-4:35-7:30-7:40-7:50-8:00-10:30-10:55-11:05-11:25-11:50-11:55; Sat. 9:05-9:15-9:30-12:30-12:40-1:20-3:25-3:55-4:05-6:50-7:20-7:30-7:45-10:15-10:45-10:55-11:35
The Odyssey (R) OC: Sat. 5:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) OC: Sat. 4:20

Medal of Honor Theater - NMMC
18900 Jefferson Davis Highway

We, the Marines Fri. 9:30-10:30-11:30-1:00-2:00-3:00-4:00

Paragon Founders Row
112 Founders Avenue

Moana (PG) Fri. 9:45-3:35; Sat. 9:15-9:45
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 12:45-6:35; Sat. 12:15-7:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 1:30-3:50-6:10; Sat. 10:30-1:00-3:30-6:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:30-10:20-1:20-2:10-5:10-6:00-9:00-9:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 9:00-12:15-3:30-6:45-10:00; Fri. 9:30-10:00-12:45-1:15-4:00-4:30-7:15-7:45-8:30-9:15-10:30; Sat. 9:30-10:00-12:45-1:15-3:00-4:00-4:30-7:15-7:45-8:30-10:30

Phoenix Theatres Village 14 + PTX
1600 Village Market Boulevard SE

Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:40-11:30-6:10-9:40
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:20-11:50-2:25-5:00-7:35-10:05

Motor City (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:20-11:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:50-11:10-1:30-3:45-6:10
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) DBOX: Fri.-Sat. 10:15-1:30-4:45-8:00
The Invite (R) Fri.-Sat. 1:30
Young Washington (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:00-1:00-4:00-6:50-9:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 11:10-3:00-5:50-9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 8:15-9:00-11:40-12:20-3:20-3:40-7:00-7:30-10:20-11:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:30-9:30-10:30-12:15-1:15-2:15-4:00-5:00-6:00-7:45-8:45-9:15-9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 9:30-10:40-1:00-2:00-2:30-4:05-5:15-6:20-7:15-8:30-9:15-10:40

Regal Ballston Quarter
671 North Glebe Road

Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:00-9:30-11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:40
The Invite (R) Fri.-Sat. 10:40
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:50-11:40-2:30-5:20-7:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 8:40-9:10-9:40-10:40-11:10-12:10-12:30-1:05-2:05-2:40-3:30-4:00-4:30-5:30-6:00-7:00-7:30-8:00-9:00-9:20-10:30-11:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:20-10:20-11:20-1:20-2:10-3:10-5:10-6:10-7:10-8:50-9:50-10:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:10-1:40-5:00-8:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 6:40-10:10; Sat. 6:40
Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:00-12:50-3:50
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 10:10

Regal Dulles Town Center
21100 Dulles Town Circle

Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:15-12:20-2:45-8:40
Motor City (R) Fri.-Sat. 11:05
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:10-12:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 9:00-9:30-10:00-11:00-11:40-12:10-12:40-1:10-2:15-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:20-5:25-6:00-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:35-9:10-9:40-10:10-10:40; Fri.-Sat. 11:10
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:25-11:20-1:00-3:00-4:40-5:40-6:40-9:20-10:20
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:30-1:40-4:50
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 9:50-5:50-9:00; Sat. 5:50-9:00
Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 9:40-3:10
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 9:50AM

Regal Fairfax Towne Center
4110 West Ox Road

The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:10-11:30-1:00-3:30-5:00-6:30-7:20-9:00-10:30
Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:40-11:40-2:30

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 8:20-9:00-9:30-10:40-11:20-12:20-12:50-2:00-2:40-3:10-3:40-4:10-5:20-6:00-7:00-7:30-7:45-8:40-9:20-10:20-10:50-11:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) DBOX: Fri.-Sat. 10:15-1:30-4:45-8:00
The Invite (R) Fri.-Sat. 1:30
Young Washington (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:00-1:00-4:00-6:50-9:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 11:10-3:00-5:50-9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 8:15-9:00-11:40-12:20-3:20-3:40-7:00-7:30-10:20-11:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:30-9:30-10:30-12:15-1:15-2:15-4:00-5:00-6:00-7:45-8:45-9:15-9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 9:30-10:40-1:00-2:00-2:30-4:05-5:15-6:20-7:15-8:30-9:15-10:40

Regal Fox
22875 Brambleton Plaza

Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 8:10AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:30-9:30-10:00-11:00-12:00-1:00-1:30-3:20-4:05-4:20-4:50-6:40-7:00-7:25-7:40-8:10-10:15-10:40-11:00-11:30; Fri. 8:00-10:30-11:30-4:35-5:20-7:55-9:30-12:00; Sat. 8:30-9:30-10:00-12:00-1:00-1:30-3:20-4:05-4:20-4:50-6:40-7:25-7:40-8:10-10:40-11:00-11:15-11:30; Sat. 7:00-8:00-5:20-9:30-12:00
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 10:20-11:50-2:10-4:45-6:00-7:30-8:30-11:15-12:20; Sat. 8:30-12:20-3:15; Sat. 10:20-2:10-4:45-6:00-7:30-8:30-11:15-12:20; Sat. 8:35-11:45-12:20-3:30
Chennai Love Story (NR) Subtitled: Fri. 12:30-9:45; Sat. 9:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 10:00; Fri. 2:00-2:50-6:10-8:40; Sat. 10:30-11:30-2:50-6:10-8:40
Moana (PG) Fri. 8:20-11:10-2:00-4:40; Sat. 8:10-9:50-12:40-3:30-4:40
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 8:50-9:55-11:25-2:00-3:40; Sat. 8:50-11:25-2:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri. 8:05-9:45-12:10-2:35-5:05; Sat. 9:45-12:10-2:35-5:05
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) 4DX: Fri.-Sat. 9:00AM
Chennai Love Story (NR) Subtitled: Sat. 7:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) 4DX: Fri. 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30-1:30; Sat. 12:30-3:50-7:10-10:30-1:40
Srinivasa Mangapuram (NR) Subtitled: Fri. 6:15-9:50; Sat. 6:20-9:50
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 8:35-9:40-12:50-4:10-7:20-10:40; Sat. 9:40-12:50-4:10-7:20-10:40
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Fri. 8:00-11:15-2:45-6:30-10:15-1:45; Sat. 7:10-10:30-2:15-6:00-9:45-1:20

Regal Kingstowne
5910 Kingstowne Towne Ctr.

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) ScreenX; Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 9:30-4:10-7:30; Sat. 5:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) ScreenX; Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 12:50-10:50
Moana (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:05-9:50-12:30-3:30

Toy Story 5 (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:20-10:50-1:30-4:30-7:20-10:00
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection: Fri. 8:15-8:45-11:00; Sat. 8:15-6:10-8:45-11:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:45-11:30-12:45-2:00-3:00-4:20-6:50-9:10-12:05
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) RPX; Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 9:00-3:40-7:00-10:20
Young Washington (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 9:10-12:10-11:40
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) RPX; Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 12:20
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 7:55-9:40-3:20-5:00-6:20-9:30-10:40-12:00
I Want Your Sex (R) Laser Projection; Subtitled; OC: Fri. 6:10
Minions & Monsters (PG) Laser Projection; Subtitled; OC: Fri.-Sat. 7:50AM
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri. 8:00-8:30-9:15-10:00-10:30-11:00-11:20-11:50-12:35-1:50-2:20-2:40-3:10-3:55-4:45-5:15-5:45-6:00-6:30-7:15-8:30-9:00-9:20-9:50; Sat. 8:00-8:30-9:15-10:00-10:30-11:00-11:20-11:50-12:35-1:50-2:20-2:40-3:10-3:55-4:45-5:15-6:00-6:30-7:15-8:30-9:00-9:20-9:50-10:35; Fri. 10:35-11:20-11:50; Sat. 11:20-11:50
The Odyssey (R) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 8:10-9:20-10:40-12:00-1:10-2:40-3:50-5:30-6:40-7:45-8:20-9:40-11:30
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Laser Projection: Fri.-Sat. 1:20-8:00

Regal Springfield Town Center
6859 Springfield Mall

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Subtitled; OC: Fri. 6:30; Sat. 10:55
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:00-8:20-10:50-1:40-4:20-7:20-9:50
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:30-12:20
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 8:10-8:40-9:10-9:40-10:00-10:30-11:00-11:30-12:30-1:00-1:30-2:00-2:30-3:00-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:00-6:30-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00; Fri. 10:00-11:00-11:30; Sat. 9:30-10:00-11:00-11:30
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 10:10-11:10-11:40-2:10-3:10-3:40-5:40-6:10-7:10-9:40-10:10-10:50; Sat. 10:10-11:10-11:40-2:10-3:10-3:40-5:40-6:10-7:10-9:40-10:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:00-3:30-7:00-10:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri.-Sat. 7:40-11:10
Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 8:50-9:30-2:50

Regal Virginia Gateway
8001 Gateway Promenade Place

Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:20-1:15-4:10-7:10-10:10

Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Subtitled; OC: Sat. 4:40
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri.-Sat. 7:50-11:10-1:50
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 10:40-1:10-3:40-6:20-8:50-11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri. 7:40-9:10-9:40-10:10-10:35-11:05-11:35-12:35-1:05-1:35-2:00-2:30-3:00-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00-9:30-10:00; Sat. 7:40-9:10-9:40-10:10-10:35-11:05-11:35-12:35-1:05-1:35-2:00-2:30-3:00-4:00-4:30-5:00-5:30-6:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:00-9:30-10:00; Fri. 11:00-11:20; Sat. 11:00-11:30
The Odyssey (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:30-10:50-1:20-2:50-5:15-6:45-9:15-10:45
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 8:10-6:30
Hadestown: The Musical (NR) Fri. 4:40-8:10-11:10; Sat. 8:10-11:10
The Odyssey: The IMAX Experience (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:00-11:50-3:50-7:45-11:15
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) ScreenX: Fri.-Sat. 8:40-12:05-7:00
Spider-Man: Brand New Day 3D (PG-13) ScreenX: Fri.-Sat. 3:35-10:30

Reston, VA - LOOK Dine-in Cinema
11940 Market Street

Moana (PG) Fri.-Sat. 11:50-2:30-7:45-10:30
Toy Story 5 (PG) Fri. 11:30-2:00-3:30-6:45; Sat. 12:50-3:30-6:45
Disclosure Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 11:00
Minions & Monsters (PG) Fri.-Sat. 11:20-4:10-6:10-8:45
The Odyssey (R) Fri. 11:00-12:00-2:40-3:40-6:20-7:15-10:00-10:50; Sat. 11:00-1:00-2:40-3:40-6:20-7:15-10:00-10:50
Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 11:40-12:10-12:40-1:10-1:40-2:50-3:20-3:50-4:20-4:50-5:30-6:00-6:30-7:00-7:30-8:00-8:30-9:10-9:40-10:10-10:40-11:10
The Invite (R) Fri. 12:50-9:

WOLF TRAP SUMMER 2026

TOMORROW!

CHANCE THE RAPPER
Coloring Book
10 Year Anniversary Tour
AUG 1

Wolf Trap Opera
Puccini
TOSCA
AUG 7

THE CONCERT: A TRIBUTE TO ABBA
AUG 8

BLUES TRAVELER
GIN BLOSSOMS
Spin Doctors
AUG 11 + 12

BEETHOVEN'S NINTH SYMPHONY
National Symphony Orchestra
Gianandrea Noseda, conductor
AUG 14

GERSHWIN, BERNSTEIN & *AMERICAN MOSAIC*
National Symphony Orchestra
Gianandrea Noseda, conductor
AUG 15

YACHT ROCK REVUE
PRIMETIME 2026 TOUR
AUG 16

DIANA ROSS
AUG 19

JOSH GROBAN
National Symphony Orchestra
AUG 22

GIPSY KINGS
Ft. Nicolas Reyes
AUG 23

GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV
National Symphony Orchestra
AUG 26

HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE™ IN CONCERT
National Symphony Orchestra
AUG 27

TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND
Lukas Nelson
AUG 28 + 29

JAMES TAYLOR
& His All-Star Band
AUG 30, SEP 1 + 2

SQUEEZE
Adam Ant
SEP 3

JERRY GARCIA SYMPHONIC CELEBRATION
National Symphony Orchestra
SEP 4

HOOK IN CONCERT
National Symphony Orchestra
SEP 5

SHREYA GHOSHAL
SEP 6

PHILADELPHIA BALLET
Stars and Stripes Forever!
SEP 10

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THE JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH WYNTON MARSALIS
National Symphony Orchestra
SEP 12

RAY LaMONTAGNE
Trouble 20th Anniversary Tour
SEP 13

JOHN FOGERTY
STEVE WINWOOD
SEP 15

THEE SACRED SOULS
LA LOM
The Womack Sisters
SEP 17

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Guster
SEP 18 + 19

ERYKAH BADU
De La Soul
The Alchemist
SEP 20

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